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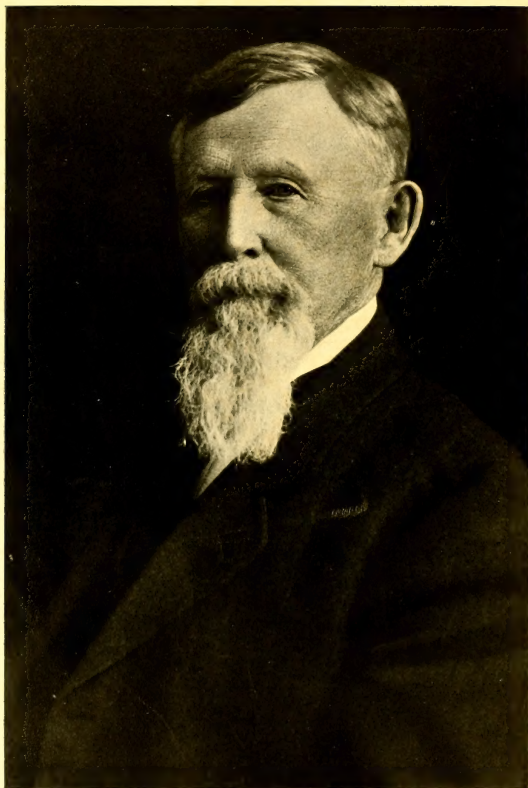
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THE HISTORY

—OF—

Mower County Minnesota

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

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CHICAGO
H. C. COOPER, Jr., & CO.

1911

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TO THE
STURDY PIONEERS OF MOWER COUNTY
WHO, AMID INNUMERABLE HARDSHIPS, BLAZED THE WAY
FOR THE PRESENT GENERATIONS;
AND TO THEIR
DESCENDANTS and SUCCESSORS
THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED
BY ALL WHO HAVE ASSISTED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION

FOREWORD.

It is with a feeling of considerable pride and pleasure that the publishers present this history for the approval of the people of Mower county. The undertaking has not been an easy one and the difficulties have been many, so many indeed that this publication would not have been possible without the liberal assistance of the citizens of the county. The chief contributors and editors have given freely of their time and talent; business men, church officials, fraternity, association and corporation officers, manufacturers, professional men and bankers, often at great personal sacrifice, have laid aside their regular duties to write of their communities and special interests; educators have written of the schools, and men and women in all walks of life have given the information at their command, regarding themselves, their families, their activities and their localities. To all of these the readers of this work owe a lasting debt of gratitude, and to each and every one the publishers extend their heartfelt thanks.

In handling the vast amount of material gathered for this work, it has been the aim of the entire staff to select such matter as is authentic, reliable and interesting. Doubtless facts have been included that many will deem of little moment, but these same facts to others may be of the deepest import. It may be also that some facts have been omitted that many readers would like to see included. To such readers we can only say that to publish every incident in the life of the county would be to issue a work of many volumes, and in choosing such material as would come within the limits of one volume we believe that the matter selected is that which will prove of greatest interest to the greatest number of readers, and also that which is most worthy of being handed down to future generations, who in this volume, in far distant years, may read of their large-souled, rugged-bodied ancestors and predecessors, who gave up the settled peace of older communities to brave the rigors of pioneer endeavor.

A few omissions may be due to some of the people of the county, themselves, as in several instances repeated requests for information have met with no response. In such cases information gathered from other sources, while authentic, may be lacking in copious detail.

Before passing hasty judgment on apparent errors, one should consider carefully, not relying on tradition or memory. In many cases we have found that persons' memories are faulty and tradition erroneous when measured by the standard of official records, even in the case of comparatively recent events, while in many instances families are under the impression that their forebears arrived in the county long before it was possible for them to do so. We have endeavored to follow a uniform system of the spelling of proper names, although various spellings of even the most familiar names appear in the newspapers and records.

Among the authorities consulted and in many cases quoted

copiously are: History of Mower County, published in 1884; Souvenir of Austin, issued by the Austin Herald; Minnesota in Three Centuries; the histories of southern Minnesota counties by the editor of the present work; the various publications of the state of Minnesota and the United States government, as well as the publications of the Iowa and Minnesota historical societies, and many other biographical, historical and archaeological works of reference. The files of the newspapers of this and neighboring counties have been carefully perused, as have the county, township, city, church and village records. Hundreds of minute books have been examined and thousands of letters and original manuscripts carefully scanned. To all who have extended us courtesies during our search for these records we extend our thanks. To John H. and Gertrude Ellis Skinner special thanks are due for many writings in this book to which their signatures are not affixed, and also for work on the proofs.

The biographies have all been gathered with care from those most interested, and with a few exceptions have been revised and corrected by the subject of the biography or by a relative or friend. This, however, refers to the dates, and sequence of events, all personal estimates being the work of the editors, and inserted in biographies only after consultation with other members of the staff.

That this history is faultless we do not presume; it is probably not within the power of man to arrange a work of this kind without mistakes of one sort or another; that it will meet the unqualified approval of all we dare not expect, but we trust that the merits of the history will overbalance any shortcomings that may be discovered.

Our association with the people of Mower county has been a most pleasant one. We have conscientiously performed our task, and in placing the history in the hands of those whom it most concerns, our hope is that we have done our work well.

H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

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part of this volume.

History of Mower County

CHAPTER I.

NATURAL PHENOMENA.

Introduction—Location and Area—Surface and Topography— Material Resources.

Situated in the southeastern portion of that rolling sweep of country known as southern Minnesota, is a prosperous county that has taken its name from John E. Mower, an early member of the Minnesota Territorial Legislature.

A rolling prairie, interspersed with natural and domestic groves, beautified by meandering streams, and surfaced with rich, deep soil, the county has advantages which have placed it in the foremost ranks of Minnesota's agricultural and grazing districts. The elevation of this stretch of land above the sea, its fine drainage and the dryness of the atmosphere, give it a climate of unusual salubrity and pleasantness. Its latitude gives it correspondingly longer days in summer, and during the growing seasons about one and a half hours more of sunshine than in the latitude of St. Louis. This taken in connection with the abundant rainfall in early autumn, accounts for the rapid and vigorous growth of crops in this vicinity and their early maturity. The refreshing breezes and cool nights in summer prevent the debilitating effect of heat so often felt in lower latitudes. The winter climate is also one of the attractive features. Its uniformity and its dryness, together with the bright sunshine and the electrical condition of the air, all tend to enhance the personal comfort of the resident, and to make outdoor life and labor a pleasure.

Embracing as the county does, so pleasing a prospect to the eye, and so fruitful a field for successful endeavor, it is natural that the people who from the earliest days were attracted here, should be the possessors of steady virtues, ready to toil and to sacrifice, that their labors might be crowned with the fruits of prosperity and happiness. The cities and villages of the county

have had their part in the general commercial upbuilding of the state, and furnish excellent trading and shipping facilities for the rural districts. In these centers, manufacturing is carried on to a greater or less extent; the milling business is naturally important; and the dairy and creamery interests are paramount.

The rural districts are the scene of peace, prosperity and contentment. The homes are substantially built, and furnished with the comforts and conveniences of modern life, stock is humanely housed and well pastured, the farm land is extensively tilled and productive, and the churches and schools which are seen on every side testify to an interest in the higher things of life by a law-abiding, progressive and loyal people.

It is indeed in its men and women, rather than in its grains and vegetables, its live stock and fruit, its factories and commerce that Mower county takes its greatest pride. From her farms, from her cities, and from her villages, have gone out those who have taken an important part in the activities of the world, and who whether in commerce or diplomacy, in the professions or in the trades, have maintained that steadfastness of purpose and staunchness of character that mark true Mower county men and women wherever they may be found.

Usually blessed by nature with deep soil and abundant natural resources, and endowed with a wealth of prehistoric and historic lore, the county is a fitting home for the sturdy people who have here made their dwelling place. Hard-working, progressive, educated and prosperous, they have appreciated the gifts which nature has spread for them, and have added their own toil, and the fruit of their intellects, to the work of the elements, making the country one of the beautiful spots of the earth. On the slopes of land graze cattle and sheep, while the level lands respond to the efforts of the spring-time sower and planter with a wealth of harvest in the summer and autumn. On nearly every quarter section is reared a comfortable home and commodious barns, while from the crest of every swell of land are visible the churches and schools wherein the people worship the Giver of all Gifts, and educate their children. Thus blessed by God and beloved by man, the county today stands for all that is ideal in American life and is forging ahead to still wider influence and more extended opportunity.

Location and Area. The county of Mower lies in the southeastern portion of Minnesota, only two counties separating it from the Mississippi river, while it forms one of the southern tier of counties. The county is bounded on the north by Dodge and Olmsted counties; on the east by Fillmore county, the west by Freeborn county; and on the south by the state of Iowa. The county comprises an area of about 453,120 acres, or 708 square

miles. It includes congressional townships 101, 102, 103 and 104, north, ranges 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 west of the Fifth principal meridian, except sections 1 to 6, in township 104, ranges 14 and 15, which were cut off and annexed to Olmsted county, May 22, 1857. This territory is organized into the following civil townships: Udolpho, Waltham, Sargeant, Pleasant Valley, Racine, Frankford, Grand Meadow, Dexter, Red Rock, Lansing, Austin, Windom, Marshall, Clayton, Bennington, LeRoy, Lodi, Adams, Nevada and Lyle.

Surface and Topography. The general surface features of Mower county can more accurately and more readily be seen by a glance at the description of the various townships, than can possibly be given in a general chapter. The surface of the county is somewhat diversified; yet the whole is gently undulating. Nowhere within the limits of the county does the surface approach the character properly called hilly, but maintains throughout its general smoothness, and susceptibility of cultivation. The situation is necessarily healthful and free from malaria. The cold springs of crystal water that burst through the surface of the soil, feed the numerous streams that flow in every direction from the borders. The elevation is an effectual and perpetual injunction against the inroads of fevers of any kind. The Red Cedar river in the western tier of townships, receives the waters of Rose, Dobbins' and Turtle creeks from the east and flows southward into Iowa. The little Cedar river is in the south central part of the county, and further south, in Iowa, joins with the Red Cedar river to form the Cedar river, which stream in turn joins the Iowa river and thus reaches the Mississippi. The Wapsipinicon river, which rises in the south central part of the county, flows through Iowa to the Mississippi. A branch of the upper Iowa rises in the southeastern part of the county. In the northeast and eastern part of the county, are many tributaries of the Root river, which river flowing northeast and east reaches the Mississippi river. The county has also several small creeks, and a number of springs.

As an agricultural and stock raising region Mower county is not excelled by any county in the state. The soil is very productive; being a rich, dark sandy loam, well adapted to all cereals common to this latitude. It is also excellently adapted to the production of cultivated and indigenous grasses, and the raising of stock, both common and blooded, attracts the general attention of the intelligent class of farmers who have located here. Timber is found in considerable quantities along the banks of the water courses and distributed in beautiful groves, both natural and domestic, all over the county. The general varieties of timber are oak, maple, ash, hickory, walnut, basswood, elm, cottonwood, poplar, etc. Four nuts grow here—hickory nuts, walnuts,

hazelnuts and butternuts. The wild lands are covered with the richest and most nutritious grasses, eminently adapted to grazing.

From the Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota from 1872 to 1882, as compiled by Prof. N. H. Winchell, assisted by Warren Upham, Ph. D., we make several extracts of that portion relating to Mower county:

Estimates of the average height of the townships of this county are as follows: Racine, 1,300 above the sea; Frankford, 1,320; Bennington, 1,325; LeRoy, 1,300; Pleasant Valley, 1,350; Grand Meadow, 1,360; Clayton, 1,360; Lodi, 1,325; Sargeant, 1,360; Dexter, 1,360; Marshall, 1,330; Adams, 1,275; Waltham, 1,340; Red Rock, 1,270; Windom, 1,240; Nevada, 1,230; Udolpho, 1,260; Lansing, 1,225; Austin, 1,190; Lyle, 1,190. The mean elevation of Mower county is approximately 1,300 feet above the sea.

The soil of Mower county is everywhere dependent on the nature of the drift. The underlying rock has affected it only so far as it may have mingled with the general mass. It is hence primarily a gravelly clay, that being the character of the subsoil throughout the county. This gravelly clay, however, is not prominently displayed as the immediate soil of the surface. Indeed, the farmer in plowing rarely penetrates to it. It lies below a rich loam usually at depths varying from zero to two or three feet, or even more. The surface soil itself, which has resulted from it through the agency of the forces of the atmosphere and of vegetation, is of a dark color, and in general may be designated as clayey loam, or a sandy loam, depending on the nature and completeness of the local drainage. In low grounds this loam is thick and of dark color. It is also apt to be more clayey in low ground than it is on the hillsides or slopes adjoining, and on high hills or steep slopes it is thin or wanting, the wash of the surface having carried it into valleys. Along the streams it often consists of an arenaceous loam variously mingled with the detritus of the flood-plain.

The soil of the county is everywhere characterized by the strength and fertility that the drift soils of the Northwest are noted for. They are the most reliable soils for all the purposes of the farmer that are known. The states that are regularly and deeply buried in drift deposits are known as the best farming states of the Union. Certain rock soils, endowed with special qualities, may excel in the production of certain crops, especially in favorable seasons, but for general tillage they cannot compete with the homogeneous drift soils, through which are disseminated the good qualities of the various rocks concerned in their production, in the proportions that make stability and diversity equally certain.

A detailed account of the geologic features of Mower county may be found in the published reports of the "Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota," to which reference has already been made.

Material Resources. With the exception of the central high prairie portion of Mower county, it is tolerably well supplied with wood for common fuel. On the prairies referred to wood is rare. Along the valleys of the streams in the eastern and western portions of the county the first settlements took place. The principal natural wealth of the county lies in its soil and its agricultural adaptations. The people are generally farmers. The growth of the county in all respects will be primarily dependent on, and co-ordinate with, the settlement of the farming lands, and their profitable tillage. Quarrying is carried on to some degree, lime is burned, cement is made, and from the early days brick have been manufactured in the county. At the present time brick and tile making in Austin is a most important industry. Many wells have been sunk in the soil of the county and the water thus obtained is uniformly excellent.

CHAPTER II.

THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS.

Primeval Solitude—Origin of Human Life in Minnesota—The Lowland Mound Builders—The Highland Mound Builders—Mower County a Hunting Place for the Indians.

From the first existence of the earth to the time of the coming of man many æons passed, and after countless ages this locality awaited human habitation. Primeval nature reigned in all her beauty.

"The buffalo, the elk, and the deer, for centuries roamed the wild prairies and woodlands; fishes basked undisturbed in its rippling streams; the muskrat, the otter, and the mink gamboled upon the ice in winter with no man to molest them. Ducks, geese, and other aquatic fowls, in countless numbers, covered the streams in summer, and chattered and squawked and frolicked in all their native glory and happiness. The prairie wolves howled upon their little hillocks, and, cowardlike, were always ready to attack and destroy the weak and defenseless. Pocket gophers went on with their interminable underground operations, all unconscious of the inroads later to be made upon their

dominions by the husbandman. Grouse and prairie chickens cackled, crowed and strutted in all their pride. Blizzards and cyclones swept unheeded across its domains.

"The autumnal prairie fires, in all their terrible grandeur and weird beauty, lighted the heavens by night and clouded the sun by day. Age after age added richness to the soil and prepared it to be one of the most productive fields of the world for the abode of the husbandman and for the uses of civilized man."

At some period of the earth's history, mankind in some form took up its abode in the area that is now Mower county. The origin of human life in Minnesota has been made a subject of special study by Dr. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society, and the thoughtful student is referred to his various articles on the subject; a detailed discussion being beyond the scope of this work.

It is possible that this region may have been occupied by primitive man in glacial, inter-glacial and pre-glacial times. Prof. Edward W. Schmidt, the distinguished Minnesota archæologist, has investigated the mounds lying in the lowlands and on the prairies of Minnesota and Iowa, and it is possible that a new chapter will soon be added to the world's knowledge of pre-historic life in this region.

There are some of these lowland mounds, so called, on the road between Austin and Faribault, and many on the prairies between Grand Meadow and Le Roy. The name lowland mounds is given to distinguish this class of mound from the highland mounds, so well known on eminences along the Mississippi and its larger tributaries.

The mounds between Grand Meadow and Le Roy have thus far been the subject of little more than superficial notice, but will be investigated more thoroughly at a later date. They are first seen surrounding a marsh about a quarter of a mile across, about two miles and a quarter south of Grand Meadow. About twenty are here visible, rising each about two feet above the surface. Farther south they increase in number, extending three or more miles toward the south and southwest. Probably 500 could be counted, some being five feet high. They are scattered promiscuously over the upper prairie. The surface has the appearance of having been poorly drained formerly, and was perhaps covered with shallow water till late in the summer season. It is thought that they occur where the ground is wet and the clay near the surface. Yet south of the region designated they do not exist, though there is no apparent difference in the prairie. The material of which they consist is the ordinary loam of the surface soil. Several of them have been removed, when near the highway, and the material hauled into the street for grading.

There is no record or knowledge of any human bones or other relics having been found in them.

In regard to these lowland mounds, Professor Schmidt has said: "These mounds are undoubtedly of the kind I have been studying. They are a conundrum. After examining so many similar mounds in many different places, and in view of the fact that so far there is no positive evidence at hand to tell us how these mounds came to be, it is perfectly proper to ask: How are these mounds made? Are they geological features of the country? If so, let the geologist explain them. Or have they been formed by plants or animals? If so, let the biologist explain them. If, for example, animals have made them, either by their own efforts or by the help of natural agencies, then it may be that many of the highland knolls which are now counted and mapped as Indian mounds may prove to be of a similar origin.

"A prolonged observation of these mounds in the various localities where they occur seems to justify this conclusion that by far the greater number, if not all of them, are Indian mounds. These mounds are either artificial or else they are not artificial. Either view has its difficulties in our present state of knowledge.

"The following are some of the reasons which point to an artificial origin: The mounds are invariably sound and are made of the same kind of soil as occurs on the land on which they are situated. Some people call them gopher hills, or ant-hills, or remnants of haystacks, or swells in the land marking the site of a buried boulder. As regards the view that the mounds are the remains of haystacks, we may say that haystacks leave no residual soil of this kind when hay is left to rot. The mounds are often located where hay was never stacked, for example, in woods. On one tract of land that was being cleared of its timber some of the mounds located in the woods had trees growing on them. Nor do haystacks leave remains of soil with sand, gravel and pebbles in them. Nor do they occur in woods with old trees growing on them. Some of the mounds occur in places where, at least for a part of the year, it is very wet, where no farmer would stack hay, nor any gopher burrow, nor ants build their homes. It is true that ants are to be found in the lowlands, but the structures reared to mark the sites of their nest are never in these localities more than a few inches over a foot in height. The width of the anthills is about one foot, and the flat truncated top usually slants in a southerly direction, facing the sun. Very likely such frail structures would, when deserted, disappear in a short time under the attack of the elements. In no instance were ants found living in the mounds.

"That people call these mounds gopher hills is easily ex-

plained by the fact that gophers occasionally burrow in mounds. Immediately the inference is drawn that the gophers built the whole mound. Closer observation shows that wherever burrowing animals are found inhabiting mounds, the mound loses its smooth, convex outline and becomes roughened and warty in appearance on account of the small heaps of dirt thrown up by the animals. Hence we may readily see how, in the lapse of long centuries, some of the mounds may have been inhabited for a time by gophers and made rough on the exterior. This would account for the bossed surface that some mounds have. Mounds can be found in localities so wet that it is doubtful if a gopher ever lived there. Gophers do not live in wet places any more than in woods. Again, we know that gophers abound in many places where no mounds whatever occur. Why, for example, does not the enormous number of gophers in other counties build mounds on the high prairies, or along the whole lengths of river courses? Why do they not build intermediate mounds as well as mounds twenty to forty feet across? I never met a man who knew of gophers building large mounds.

“These considerations seem to warrant the conclusion that these mounds are not the accumulations of rotted grass, nor of gopher and ant diggings. Nor does there seem to be a natural agency to which the making of so many mounds, so regularly alike, in such different localities, can be inferred. If it be suggested that they might have been formed by upturned roots of trees that were blown over, or by the drift material of swollen waters, or by springs, a number of questions can be raised at once to throw great improbability on such an origin of the mounds. While we may conceive of some mounds having been formed in this way in certain places, none of the suggested modes, nor a combination of them, will explain the mounds in these places. Why should not these agencies have formed mounds in vastly larger areas where we know there are springs, where winds overturn trees, where flooded streams form very numerous drift accumulations but not mounds? Nor are these mounds small dunes blown up by the wind. The character of the land is such as to preclude all possibility of their formation by the wind. Much of the ground is too wet to permit the drifting of soil; some of the pebbles and rocks found in the mounds would require a terrific wind to transport them. Again, dunes built by the wind are not uniformly circular. Rather they are oblong, with the highest elevation not in the middle but towards one end. It were odd indeed that the wind should build such dunes in low places, or in woods, or in groups, or string them along creeks and not build them in places that are apparently much better adapted to wind-work. There are also

other considerations which give color to the conclusion that the mounds were built by man, and that by the Indians. The shape of all the mounds is that of the ordinary round mound. In size they vary from fifteen to thirty feet across the top. Few exceed thirty feet. One mound measured fifteen paces, or about forty-five feet across. In general, the height varies from one-half to two and one-half feet. A number exceed this and may form very conspicuous objects on the meadow where the grass is burned away. A number of mounds have circular depressions around them as if dirt had been removed thence. After a thaw, water may stand in the ring and make it very noticeable.

"At first it seemed to me very probable that the mounds served as tenting places. The diameter and circumference of the mounds would suggest this, but the seeming absence of the action of fire does not support this view unless the Indians camping there did not build fires. In other respects there is no reason why Indians might not have camped there, as there was plenty of water, and an abundance of game. In ancient times, the region of these mounds between Grand Meadow and Le Roy was, doubtless, a great marsh, and possibly even a marshy lake, drained by what are now tributaries of the Root river, a probable traffic way for the savages from the Mississippi river.

"There is no reason to doubt that fancy, or some definite cause, such as the capture of game, brought Indians to all parts of this country; hence it is not at all unlikely that pre-historic Indians did the same thing. Our inability to find a conclusive reason at present why Indians should camp or build mounds in these places is no proof that the mounds are not of Indian origin. Should closer study prove the mounds to be burial places, then they are witnesses both of the large number of Indians buried there, as well as of the much larger number of population which was not honored with a monument of earth.

"If it is true that these mounds are the products of human activity in prehistoric times, then they present us with a new and unexpected phase in the mound builders choice of location for mounds. To a person accustomed to seeing large effigy mounds in Wisconsin, or other larger mounds along the Mississippi, it would naturally be a puzzle to find mounds in a location where his former experience would not have prompted him to look for mounds. The unexpected may also turn up in the experience of the mound-hunter, and there is nothing unreasonable in thinking that these mounds are another link in the chain of Minnesota archeology, throwing light on the life of the prehistoric builders. It merely shows that Indians built mounds also in other places than on high terraces and shores.

"But should further study ever show that these mounds are

not the work of wandering savages, then they ought to be accorded a place in that science whose province it will be to explain them. So far I have utterly failed to find any adequate cause or principle mentioned in geology, biology or physiography, which will explain all of these in all places. If these mounds were not built by Indians, then it may be that in any other mounds now reckoned as Indians' mounds may also be explained by the action of some other agency."

The first actual residents of this vicinity, whose occupation of the region has been conclusively demonstrated, were the Highland Mound Builders. Many relics, such as arrow heads and the like, have been found along the Cedar river. No scientific investigation has been made of Highland mounds in Mower county, but studies that have been made of these mounds to the north and east, inside of a radius of 100 miles, would seemingly form the premises of a fairly safe conclusion, that the Highland mound building race ranged the prairies of Mower county. Scholars at one time held to the belief that the Highland Mound Builders were a distinct race of a now exterminated people, much superior to the Indians in intelligence and habits and related closely, indeed, in civilization to the highly cultured Aztecs of Mexico. Present day scholars, however, are of the belief that the Highland Mound Builders, of North America, were the ancestors of the Indians found here by the early explorers, and differing from them in no important characteristic of intelligence, habits, morals or education. The Highland Mound Builders of this immediate vicinity were, doubtless, the ancestors of the Sioux and the Iowa Indians, it being well known that these two races were branches of the same great family.

None of the early explorers mention any permanent Indian villages within the present limits of Mower county, and, although the Sioux Indians claimed this stretch of land, this prairie was doubtless crossed from time immemorial, by bands of the Sioux, Iowas, Sacs and Foxes.

The vague traditions of the Sioux having been driven out of Wisconsin by the Chippewas, their settlement about Mille Laes, and their gradual distribution along the west banks of the upper Mississippi, as well as their alleged conquest of the Iowas, who, according to tradition, formerly occupied the latter locality, is beyond the scope of this work. The words Dakota and Sioux, though exactly opposite in meaning, are applied to the same race of Indians. Dakota (variously spelled) is the name applied by the race themselves, and means friendly or joined together in friendly compact, the Sioux nation being a confederation of tribes. The word Sioux comes from the word Nadowayse Sioux, applied by the Chippewas and meaning enemies. The diaries of

the early hunters along the west bank of the Mississippi, lead us to believe that the vicinity embraced in Mower county was familiar to all the Sioux Indians living along that river, and that annual hunting parties visited this region. Many sanguinary wars were also fought here, for the Sacs and the Foxes were not far away, and even the Chippewas occasionally braved the wrath of their enemies and came here after game.

With the coming of the white settlers, the Sioux Indians became rather plentiful in Mower county, although at that time the treaties which relinquished the Indian rights of title had already been signed.

CHAPTER III.

INDIAN TREATIES.

Visit to Washington—Boundary Lines Between Indian Tribes Defined—Territory Now Mower County Included in the Sioux Jurisdiction—Second Treaty of Prairie Du Chien—Some of Wabasha's Men Killed by the Foxes South of Austin in Iowa—Strip of Territory South of Mower County Ceded by Treaty—The Doty Treaty and Its Failure—Treaty of Traverse Des Sioux—Treaty of Mendota, by Which Mower County was Opened to Settlement.

From prehistoric days up to the time of the treaty signed at Mendota, August 5, 1851, ratified and amended by the United States senate, June 23, 1852; accepted with amendments by the Indians, September 4 and 6, 1852, and proclaimed by President Fillmore, February 24, 1853, the territory embraced in Mower county remained in the undisputed possession of the Indians, being used as a hunting ground by the Sioux Indians, but also being visited by other Redmen. Before this treaty, however, several agreements were made between the Indians of this vicinity and the United States government, regarding mutual relations and the ceding of lands.

Visit to Washington. In the spring of 1824 the first delegation of Sioux Indians went to Washington to see their "Great Father," the president. A delegation of Chippewas accompanied, and both were in charge of Major Taliaferro. Wabasha, then properly called Wa-pa-ha-sha, the head chief of the band at Winona; and Little Crow, head of the Kaposia band; and Wah-natah, were the principal members of the Sioux delegation. The

object of the visit was to secure a convocation of all of the upper Mississippi Indians at Prairie du Chien to define the boundary line of the lands claimed by the separate tribes and to establish general and permanent friendly relations among them. The party went in keel boats from Fort Snelling to Prairie du Chien, and from there to Pittsburg by steamboat, thence to Washington and other eastern cities by land.

Prairie du Chien Treaty of 1825. The treaty of Prairie du Chien, signed in 1825, was important to the Indians of this vicinity, in that it fixed certain boundaries. The eastern boundary of the Sioux territory was to commence on the east bank of the Mississippi, opposite the mouth of the "Ioway" (now the upper Iowa) river, running back to the bluffs, and along the bluffs to the Bad Ax river; thence to the mouth of Black river, and thence to "half a day's march" below the falls of the Chippewa. The boundary lines were certainly, in some respects, quite indefinite, and whether this was the trouble or not, at any event, it was but a few months after the treaty when it was evident that neither the Dakotas (Sioux) nor Ojibways were willing to be governed by the lines established—and hardly by any others. The first article of the treaty provided: "There shall be a firm and perpetual peace between the Sioux and the Chippewas; between the Sioux and the confederated tribes of Saes and Foxes; and between the 'Ioways' and the Sioux." But this provision was more honored in the breach than the observance, and in a little time the tribes named were flying at one another's throats and engaged in their old-time hostilities. On the part of the Sioux this treaty was signed by Chiefs Wabasha, Little Crow, Standing Buffalo, Sleepy Eye, Two Faces, Tah-sah-ghee, or "His Cane"; Black Dog, Wah-ah-na-tah, or "The Charger"; Red Wing, Shakopee, Penishon and Eagle Head, and also by a number of head soldiers and "principal men." The Chippewa signers were Shingaubwa, Gitcha Gaubow, Wis Coup, or "Sugar," and a number of sub-chiefs and principal men.

Second Treaty of Prairie du Chien. In 1830, the second treaty with the northwest Indian tribes was signed at Prairie du Chien. A few weeks previous to the convocation, which was begun July 15, a party of Wabasha's band of Sioux, and some Menominees, ambushed a party of Fox Indians some twelve or fifteen miles below Prairie du Chien and killed eight of them, including a sub-chief called the Kettle.

The Foxes had their village near Dubuque, and were on their way to Prairie du Chien to visit the Indian agent, whom they had apprised of their coming. They were in canoes on the Mississippi, and as they reached the lower end of Prairie du Pierreaux, they paddled up a narrow channel which ran near the eastern

shore. At this point their concealed enemies opened fire. The Foxes returned to their village, bearing their dead, while the Sioux and Menominees went home and danced over their victory. A few weeks previous the Foxes had killed some of Wabasha's band on the Red Cedar river in Iowa, a few miles south of Austin, and the Sioux claimed that their part in the Prairie du Pierreaux was taken in retaliation for the Red Cedar affair. In June of the following year, a large number of Menominees were camped on an island in the Mississippi, less than half a mile from Fort Crawford and Prairie du Chien. One night they were all intoxicated—men, women and children—when two hours before daylight the Dubuque Foxes took dreadful reprisal for the killing of their brethren at Prairie du Pierreaux. Though but a small band, they crept into the Menominee encampment, fell upon the inmates, and in a few minutes put numbers of them to the gun, tomahawk and the scalping knife. Thirty Menominees were killed. When the entire Menominee band had been aroused, the Foxes, without having lost a man, retired, calling out in great exaltation that the cowardly killing of their comrades at Prairie du Pierreaux had been revenged.

Because of the Prairie du Pierreaux affair, the Foxes at first refused to be present at the second treaty of Prairie du Chien, but finally came.

Delegates were present from four bands of the Sioux, the Medawakantons, the Wapakootas, the Wahpatons and the Sissetons, and also from the Saes, the Foxes and Iowas, and even from the Omahas, Otoes and Missouris, the homes of the last three tribes being on the Missouri river. At this treaty the Indian tribes represented ceded all of their claims to the land in western Iowa, northwestern Missouri, and especially the country of the Des Moines river valley. The lower bands had a special article inserted in the treaty for the benefit of their half-blood relatives:

"The Sioux bands in council have earnestly solicited that they might have permission to bestow upon the half-breeds of their nation the tract of land within the following limits, to-wit: Beginning at a place called the Barn, below and near the village of the Red Wing chief, and running back fifteen miles; thence, in a parallel line, with Lake Pepin and the Mississippi river about thirty-two miles, to a point opposite Beef, or O'Boeuf, river, thence fifteen miles to the Grand Encampment, opposite the river aforesaid, the United States agree to suffer said half-breeds to occupy said tract of country, they holding the same title, and in the same manner that other Indian titles are held."

Certificates, or "scrip" were issued to many half-breeds, and there was much speculation in them, and litigation over them, in subsequent years, a matter of which will be treated later in

this history. The Sioux also ceded a tract of land twenty miles wide along the northern boundary of Iowa from the Mississippi to the Des Moines, the consideration for which was \$2,000 in cash and \$12,000 in merchandise. Thus it will be seen that as early as 1830 the Indians relinquished their title to the land just south of Mower county. The strip in question was for many years known as the "Neutral Land."

The Doty Treaty. The Doty treaty, made at Traverse des Sioux, in July, 1841, failed to be ratified by the United States senate. This treaty embodied a Utopian dream that a territory of Indians could be established, in which the Redmen would reside on farms and in villages, living their lives after the style of the whites, having a constitutional form of government, with a legislature of their own people elected by themselves, the governor to be appointed by the president of the United States, much along the plan still followed with the Cherokees in the Indian territory, except that it embodied for the Indians a much higher type of citizenship than is found in the Indian territory. The Indians were to be taught the arts of peace, to be paid annuities, and to be protected by the armies of the United States from their Indian enemies on the west. In return for these benefits to be conferred upon the Indians, the United States was to receive all the lands in what is now Minnesota, the Dakotas and northwestern Iowa, except small portions, which were to be reserved for the Redmen. This ceded land was not to be opened to the settlement of the whites, and the plan was to have some of it reserved for Indian tribes from other parts of the country who should sell their lands to the United States, and who, in being moved here, were to enjoy all the privileges which had been so beautifully planned for the native Indians. But no one can tell what would have been the result of this experiment, for the senate, for political reasons, refused to ratify the treaty, and it failed of going into effect. This treaty was signed by the Sisseton, Wahpaton and Wahpakoota bands at Traverse des Sioux, July 31, 1841, and by the Medawakanton bands at Mendota, August 11 of the same year.

Treaty of Traverse des Sioux. In the spring of 1851 President Fillmore appointed Governor Alexander Ramsey and Luke Lea as commissioners to open negotiations with the Indians for the purpose of opening to settlement what is now the greater part of Minnesota. The conference was held at Traverse des Sioux, between the chiefs and head men of the Sisseton and Wahpaton, or Upper Bands, as they were called, and the two commissioners. The Indians were accompanied by their families and many prominent pioneers were also present. The meeting was held under a brush arbor erected by Alexis Bailly, and one of the incidents

of the proceedings was the marriage of two mixed blood people, David Faribault and Nancy Winona McClure, the former the son of Jean Baptist Faribault and the latter of Lieut. James McClure. The treaty was signed July 22, 1851, and provided that the upper bands should cede to the United States all their land in Iowa as well as their lands east of a line from the Red river to Lake Traverse and thence to the northwestern corner of Iowa.

Treaty of Mendota. From July 29, 1851, to August 5, Mendota was the scene of the conference which opened Mower, Steele and surrounding counties to white settlement. The chiefs and head men of the lower bands were thoroughly familiar with the proceedings of the Indians and the representatives of the United States at Traverse des Sioux and all were on hand that bright August day, waiting for the negotiations to open at Mendota. The first session was held in the warehouse of the Fur Company at that place, but the Indians found the atmosphere stifling, and not in accord with their usual method of outdoor councils, so the consideration of the treaty was taken up under a large brush arbor, erected by Alexis Bailly, on an elevated plain near the high prominence known as Pilot Knob. Dr. Thomas Foster was secretary for Commissioners Lea and Ramsey; the interpreters were Alexander Faribault, Philander Prescott and Rev. G. H. Pond; the white witnesses were David Olmsted, W. C. Henderson, Alexis Bailly, Richard Chute, Henry Jackson, A. L. Carpenter, W. H. Randall, A. S. H. White, H. L. Dousman, Fred C. Sibley, Martin McLeod, George N. Faribault and Joseph A. Wheelock. After much deliberation and many disagreements, the treaty was signed August 5, 1851. Little Crow was the first signer. To the treaty Little Crow signed his original name, Tah O-ya-te Doota, meaning His Red Nation. Wabasha was the next to sign, making his mark. Then the other chiefs, head soldiers and principal warriors crowded around to affix their marks. In all, there were sixty-five Indian signatures.

At Mendota, as at Traverse des Sioux, when the treaty was concluded, each Indian signer stepped to another table where lay another paper which he signed. This was called the traders' paper, and was an agreement to pay the "just debts," so called, of the Indians, including those present and absent, alive and dead, owing to the traders and the trading company. Some of the accounts were nearly thirty years old, and the Indians who had contracted them were dead; but the bands willingly assumed the indebtedness and agreed that it might be discharged out of the first money paid them. The territory ceded by the two treaties was declared to be: "All their lands in the state of Iowa, and also all their lands in the territory of Minnesota lying east of the following line, to-wit: Beginning at the junction of

Buffalo river with the Red River of the North (about twelve miles north of Morehead, at Georgetown station, in Clay county), thence along the western bank of said Red River of the North, to the mouth of the Sioux Wood river; thence along the western bank of said Sioux Wood river to Lake Traverse; thence along the western shore of said lake to the southern extremity thereof; thence, in a direct line, to the juncture of Kampska lake with the Tehan-Ka-Sna-Duka, or Sioux river; thence along the western bank of said river to its point of intersection with the northern line of the state of Iowa, including all islands in said rivers and lakes.”

The lower bands were to receive \$1,410,000, to be paid in the manner and form following: For settling debts and removing themselves to the new reservation, \$220,000, one-half to the Medawakanton bands, and one-half to the single Wahpakoota band; for schools, mills and opening farms, \$30,000. Of the principal of \$1,410,000, the sum of \$30,000 in cash was to be distributed among the two bands as soon as the treaty was ratified, and \$28,000 was to be expended annually, under the president's direction, as follows: To a civilization fund, \$12,000; to an educational fund, \$6,000; for goods and provisions, \$10,000. The balance of the principal, or \$1,160,000, was to remain in trust with the United States at 5 per cent interest, to be paid annually to the Indians for fifty years, commencing July 1, 1852. The \$58,000 annuity interest was to be expended as the first installment—\$30,000 in cash, \$12,000 for civilization, \$6,000 for education, and \$10,000 for goods and provisions. The back annuities under the treaty of 1837 remaining unexpired were also to be paid annually. Their reservation was to extend from the mouth of the Yellow Medicine and Hawk creek southeasterly to the mouth of Rock creek, a tract twenty miles wide and about forty-five miles in length. The half-breeds of the Sioux were to receive in cash \$150,000 in lieu of lands allowed them under the Prairie du Chien treaty of 1830, but which they had failed to claim.

The written copies of the Traverse des Sioux and the Mendota treaties, duly signed and attested, were forwarded to Washington to be acted upon by the senate at the ensuing session of congress. An unreasonably long delay resulted. Final action was not had until the following summer, when, on July 23, the senate ratified both treaties with important amendments. The provisions for reservations for both the upper and lower bands were stricken out, and substitutes adopted, agreeing to pay ten cents an acre for both reservations, and authorizing the president, with the assent of the Indians, to cause to be set apart other reservations, which were to be within the limits of the original great cession. The provision to pay \$150,000 to the half-bloods of the lower bands

was also stricken out. The treaties, with the changes, came back to the Indians for final ratification and agreement to the alterations. The chiefs of the lower bands at first objected very strenuously, but finally, on Saturday, September 4, 1852, at Governor Ramsey's residence in St. Paul, they signed the amended articles, and the following Monday the chiefs and head men of the upper bands affixed their marks. As amended, the treaties were proclaimed by President Fillmore February 24, 1853. The Indians were allowed to remain in their old villages, or, if they preferred, to occupy their reservations as originally designated, until the president selected their new homes. That selection was never made, and the original reservations were finally allowed them. The removal of the lower Indians to their designated reservation began in 1853, but was intermittent, interrupted and extended over a period of several years. The Indians went up in detachments, as they felt inclined. After living on the reservation for a time, some of them returned to their old hunting grounds, where they lived continuously for some time, visiting their reservation and agency only at the time of the payment of their annuities. Finally, by the offer of cabins to live in, or other substantial inducements, nearly all of them were induced to settle on the Redwood Reserve, so that in 1862, at the time of the outbreak, less than twenty families of the Medawakantons and Wahpakootas were living off their reservation. With the subsequent history of these Indians this volume will not deal in detail; the purpose of treating with the Indians thus far in this chapter having been to show the various negotiations by which Mower county and the surrounding territory came into the possession of the whites and was thus opened for settlement and development.

CHAPTER IV.

GOVERNMENTAL HISTORY.

Early Claims of Title—Spain, France and England—Treaties and Agreements—The Louisiana Purchase—Indiana—Louisiana District—Louisiana Territory—Missouri Territory—North-west Territory—Illinois Territory—Michigan Territory—Wisconsin Territory—Iowa Territory—No Man's Land—Sibley in Congress—Minnesota Territory—Minnesota State—Compiled from Manuscripts of Hon. F. M. Crosby.

The history of the early government of what is now southern Minnesota, is formulated with some difficulty, as, prior to the nineteenth century, the interior of the county was so little known,

and the maps upon which claims and grants were founded were so meagre, as well as incorrect and unreliable, that descriptions of boundaries and locations as given in the early treaties are vague in the extreme, and very difficult of identification with present day lines and locations.

The Hon. J. V. Brower, a scholarly authority upon this subject, says—(“The Mississippi River and Its Sources”): “Spain, by virtue of the discoveries of Columbus and others, confirmed to her by papal grant (that of Alexander VI, May 4, 1493), may be said to have been the first European owner of the entire valley of the Mississippi, but she never used this claim as a ground for taking formal possession of this part of her domains other than incidentally involved in De Soto’s doings. The feeble objections which she made in the next two centuries after the discovery, to other nations exploring and settling North America, were successfully overcome by the force of accomplished facts. The name of Florida, now so limited in its application, was first applied by the Spaniards to the greater part of the eastern half of North America, commencing at the Gulf of Mexico and proceeding northward indefinitely. This expansiveness of geographical view was paralleled later by the definition of a New France of still greater extent, which practically included all the continent.

“L’Escarbot, in his history of New France, written in 1617, says, in reference to this: ‘Thus our Canada has for its limits on the west side all the lands as far as the sea called the Pacific, on this side of the Tropic of Cancer; on the south the islands of the Atlantic sea in the direction of Cuba and the Spanish land; on the east the northern sea which bathes New France; and on the north the land said to be unknown, toward the icy sea as far as the arctic pole.’

“Judging also by the various grants to individuals, noble and otherwise, and ‘companies,’ which gave away the country in latitudinal strips extending from the Atlantic westward, the English were not far behind the Spaniards and French in this kind of effrontery. As English colonists never settled on the Mississippi in pursuance of such grants, and never performed any acts of authority there, such shadowy sovereignties may be disregarded here, in spite of the fact that it was considered necessary, many years later, for various states concerned to convey to the United States their rights to territory which they never actually ruled over.

“Thus, in the most arbitrary manner, did the Mississippi river, though yet unknown, become the property, successively, of the Iberian, Gaulish and Anglo-Saxon races—of three peoples who, in later times, by diplomacy and force of arms, struggled for an actual occupancy. Practically, however, the upper Mississippi

valley may be considered as having been in the first place Canadian soil, for it was Frenchmen from Canada who first visited it and traded with its various native inhabitants. The further prosecution of his discoveries by La Salle, in 1682, extended Canada as a French possession to the Gulf of Mexico, though he did not use the name of Canada nor yet that of New France. He preferred to call the entire country watered by the Mississippi river and its tributaries, from its uttermost source to its mouth, by the new name he had already invented for the purpose—Louisiana. The name of Canada and New France had been indifferently used to express about the same extent of territory, but the name of Louisiana now came to supersede them in being applied to the conjectural regions of the West. Although La Salle has applied the latter expression to the entire valley of the Mississippi, it was not generally used in that sense after his time, the upper part of the region was called Canada, and the lower Louisiana; but the actual dividing line between the two provinces was not absolutely established, and their names and boundaries were variously indicated on published maps. Speaking generally, the Canada of the eighteenth century included the Great Lakes and the country drained by their tributaries; the northern one-fourth of the present state of Illinois, that is, as much as lies north of the mouth of the Rock river; all the regions lying north of the northern watershed of the Missouri, and finally the valley of the upper Missouri itself." This would include Mower county.

But it is now necessary to go back two centuries previous and consider the various explorations of the Mississippi upon which were based the claims of the European monarchs. Possibly the mouth of the Mississippi had been reached by Spaniards previous to 1541, possibly Hibernian missionaries as early as the middle of the sixth century, or Welch emigrants (Madoc), about 1170, discovered North America by way of the Gulf of Mexico, but historians give to Hernando de Soto and his band of adventurers the credit of having been the first white men to actually view the Mississippi on its course through the interior of the continent and of being the first ones to actually traverse its waters. De Soto sighted the Mississippi in May, 1541, at the head of an expedition in search of gold and precious stones. In the following spring, weary with hope long deferred, and worn out with his adventures, De Soto fell a victim to disease, and died May 21, 1541. His followers, greatly reduced in number by sickness, after wandering about in a vain searching, built three small vessels and descended to the mouth of the Mississippi, being the first white men to reach the outlet of that great river from the interior. However, they were too weary and discour-

aged to lay claim to the country, and took no notes of the region through which they passed.

In 1554, James Cartier, a Frenchman, discovered the St. Lawrence, and explored it as far as the present site of Quebec. The next year he ascended the river to Mont Real, the lofty hill for which Montreal was named. Thereafter all the country drained by the St. Lawrence was claimed by the French. Many years later the King of France granted the "basin of the St. Lawrence and all the rivers flowing through it to the sea," to a company, whose leader was Champlain, the founder of Quebec, which became the capital of New France, whose then unexplored territory stretched westward to well within the boundaries of what is now Minnesota. In 1613-15 Champlain explored the Ottawa river, and the Georgian bay to Lake Huron, and missions were established in the Huron country. Missionaries and fur traders were the most active explorers of the new possessions. They followed the shores of the Great Lakes and then penetrated further and further into the wilderness. As they went they tried to make friends of the red men, established trading posts and raised the Christian cross. In 1641 Jogues and Raymbault, Jesuits, after a long and perilous voyage in frail canoes and bateaux, reached the Sault Ste. Marie, where they heard of a large river, the Mich-is-ip-e, flowing southward to the sea, and of a powerful Indian tribe dwelling near its headquarters. Stories of vast fertile plains, of numberless streams, of herds of buffalo, and of many peoples, in regions far to the west and south, roused missionaries and traders anew, and the voyages and trips of the explorers became more frequent.

In 1659-60 Radisson and Groselliers, proceeding westward from Lake Superior, entered what is now Minnesota. They spent some time in the "forty villages of the Dakotas," in the vicinity of Mille Laes, and probably were the first white men to set foot on the soil of this state. The contention that these adventurers spent a part of the years 1655-56 on Prairie Island, in the Mississippi just above Red Wing, is disputed by most historians, but still forms an interesting subject for study and conjecture.

Some writers also claim that the Frenchman, Sieur Nicollet, who should not be confused with the Nicollet of a later date, reached the Mississippi in 1639.

Rene Menard, a Jesuit missionary, reached the Mississippi in 1661 by way of Wisconsin. This was twelve years prior to its discovery by Marquette and Joliet, and to Menard historians in general give the honor of the discovery of the upper waters of the great river. Menard ascended the Mississippi to the mouth of the Black river, Wis., and was lost in a forest near the source of that stream while attempting to carry the gospel to the

Hurons. His sole companion "called him and sought him, but he made no reply and could not be found." Some years later his camp kettle, robe and prayer book were seen in the possession of the Indians.

In the summer of 1663 the intelligence of the fate of Menard reached Quebec, and on August 8, 1665, Father Claude Allouez, who had anxiously waited two years for the means of conveyance, embarked for Lake Superior with a party of French traders and Indians. He visited the Minnesota shores of Lake Superior in the fall of 1665, established the Mission of the Holy Spirit at La Pointe, now in Wisconsin, and we are told "was the first to write 'Messipi' the name of the great river of the Sioux country," as he heard it pronounced by the Chippewas, or rather as it sounded to his ears.

May 13, 1673, Jaques Marquette and Louis Joliet, the former a priest and the latter the commander of the expedition, set out with five assistants, and on June 17 of the same year reached the Mississippi at the present site of Prairie du Chien, thence continuing down the river as far as the mouth of the Illinois, which they ascended, subsequently reaching the lakes.

In 1678, the Sieur Duluth, Daniel Graysolon, under commission from the governor of Canada, set out from Quebec, to explore the country west of the Lake Superior region. He was to take possession of it in the name of the king of France, and secure the trade of the native tribes. Duluth entered Minnesota in 1679, reaching the great Sioux village of Kathio at Mille Laes, on July 2. "On that day," he says, "I had the honor to plant His Majesty's arms, where a Frenchman never before had been."

La Salle, however, was the first to lay claim to the entire valley in the name of his sovereign. After achieving perpetual fame by the discovery of the Ohio river (1670-71), he conceived the plan of reaching the Pacific by way of the northern Mississippi, at that time unexplored and supposed to be a waterway connecting the two oceans. Frontenac, then governor-general of Canada, favored the plan, as did the King of France. Accordingly, gathering a company of Frenchmen, he pursued his way through the lakes, made a portage to the Illinois river, and January 4, 1680, reached what is now Lake Peoria, in Illinois. From there, in February, he sent Hennepin and two companions to explore the upper Mississippi. During this voyage Hennepin, and the men accompanying him, were taken by the Indians as far north as Mille Laes. He also discovered St. Anthony Falls. Needing reinforcements, La Salle again returned to Canada. In January, 1682, with a band of followers, he started on his third and greatest expedition. February 6, they reached the Mississippi by way of Lake Michigan and the Illinois river, and March

6, discovered the three great passages by which the river discharges its waters into the Gulf. Two days later they reascended the river a short distance, to find a high spot out of the reach of inundations, and there erected a column and planted a cross, proclaiming with due ceremony the authority of the king of France. Thus did the whole Mississippi valley pass under the nominal sovereignty of the French monarchs.

The first definite claim to the upper Mississippi is embodied in a paper, still preserved, in the colonial archives of France, entitled "The record of the taking possession, in his majesty's name, of the Bay des Puants (Green bay), of the lake and rivers of the Outagamis and Maskoutins (Fox rivers and Lake Winnebago), of the river Ouiskonche (Wisconsin), and that of the Mississippi, the country of the Nadouesioux (the Sioux or Dakota Indians), the rivers St. Croix and St. Pierre (Minnesota), and other places more remote, May 8, 1689." (E. B. O'Callahan's translation in 1855, published in Vol. 9, page 418, "Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York.") This claim was made by Perrot, and the proclamation is supposed to have been issued from Fort St. Antonie (Anthony) near the present site of Trempealeau.

The previous proclamations of St. Lusson in 1671 at the outlet of Lake Superior, of De Luth, in 1679, at the west end of the same lake and at Mille Laes, had no definite bearing on the land now embraced in Mower county, but nevertheless strengthened the French claims of sovereignty.

For over eight decades thereafter, the claims of France were, tacitly at least, recognized in Europe. In 1763 there came a change. Of this change, A. N. Winchell (in Vol. 10, "Minnesota Historical Society Collections") writes: "The present eastern boundary of Minnesota, in part (that is, so far as the Mississippi now forms its eastern boundary), has a history beginning at a very early date. In 1763, at the end of that long struggle during which England passed many a mile post in her race for world empire, while France lost nearly as much as Britain gained—that struggle, called in America the French and Indian war—the Mississippi river became an international boundary. The articles of the definite treaty of peace were signed at Paris, on February 10, 1763. The seventh article made the Mississippi, from its source to about the 31st degree of north latitude, the boundary between the English colonies on this continent and the French Louisiana. The text of the article is as follows: (Published in the "Gentleman's Magazine," Vol. 33, pages 121-126, March, 1763).

"VII. In order to re-establish peace on solid and durable foundations, and to remove forever all subjects of dispute to the

limits of the British and French Territories on the continent of America;—that for the future, the confines between the domains of his Britannic majesty and those of his most Christian majesty (the king of France) in that part of the world, shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn down the middle of the river Mississippi, from its source to the river Iberville, and from thence, by a line drawn along the middle of this river, and the Lake Maurepas and Pontchartrain, to the sea.” The boundary from the source of the river further north, or west, or in any direction, was not given; it was evidently supposed that it would be of no importance, for many centuries, at least.

This seventh article of the definite treaty was identical with the sixth article in the preliminary treaty of peace signed by England, Spain and France, at Fontainebleau, November 3, 1762. On that same day, November 3, 1762, the French and Spanish representatives had signed another act by which the French king “ceded to his cousin of Spain, and his successors forever * * * all the country known by the name of Louisiana, including New Orleans and the island on which that city is situated.” This agreement was kept secret, but when the definite treaty was signed at Paris the following year, this secret pact went into effect, and Spain at once became the possessor of the area described.

At the close of the Revolutionary war, the territory east of the Mississippi, and north of the 31st parallel, passed under the jurisdiction of the United States. By the definite treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, ratified at Paris, September 3, 1783, a part of the northern boundary of the United States, and the western boundary thereof was established, as follows: Commencing at the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods and from thence on a due course west to the Mississippi river (the Mississippi at that time was thought to extend into what is now Canada), thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of said Mississippi river until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the 31st degree of north latitude. (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, page 82.)

In 1800, by the secret treaty of San (or Saint) Ildefonso (signed October 1), Spain receded the indefinite tract west of the Mississippi to France, which nation did not, however, take formal possession until three years later, when the formality was made necessary in order that the tract might be ceded to the United States, Napoleon, for France, sold the tract to the United States, April 30, 1803. The region comprehended in the “Louisiana Purchase,” as this area was called, included all the country west of the Mississippi, except those portions west of the Rocky

mountains actually occupied by Spain, and extended as far north as the British territory.

By an act of congress, approved October 31, 1803, the president of the United States was authorized to take possession of this territory, the act providing that "all the military, civil, and judicial powers exercised by the officers of the existing government, shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner as the president of the United States shall direct." (United States Statutes at Large, Vol. 2, page 245.)

December 20, 1803, Louisiana was formally turned over to the United States at New Orleans, by M. Laussat, the civil agent of France, who a few days previous (November 30) had received a formal transfer from representatives of Spain.

Louisiana District. By an act of congress, approved March 26, 1804, all of that portion of the country ceded by France to the United States under the name of Louisiana, lying south of the 33d degree of north latitude, was organized as the territory of Orleans and all the residue thereof was organized as the district of Louisiana. That act contained the following provision: "The executive power now vested in the government of the Indiana territory shall extend to and be exercised in said district of Louisiana." The area set off as the territory of Orleans was admitted as the state of Louisiana in 1812.

Louisiana Territory. By an act of congress approved March 3, 1805, all that part of the country embraced in the district of Louisiana, was organized as a territory, called the territory of Louisiana.

Missouri Territory. By an act of congress approved June 4, 1814, it was provided that the territory hitherto called Louisiana should be called Missouri, and was organized as a territory. The struggles in congress which led to the Missouri compromise; the agreement that all territory west of Missouri and north of parallel 36° 36' should forever be free from the curse of slavery, and the final admission of Missouri with her present boundaries, by presidential proclamation, August 10, 1821, are outside of the province of this history. Sufficient is it to say here that this admission left the land to the northward, including Mower county, without a fountain head of territorial government from that date until June 28, 1834, when it was attached to Michigan.

It is now necessary to turn to the events that had been transpiring in regard to the government of the area east of the Mississippi and northwest of the Ohio river.

The Northwest Territory embraced all the area of the United States northwest of the Ohio river. By the provisions of the

famous "Northwest Ordinance," passed July 13, 1787, by the Congress of the Confederation (the constitution of the United States not being adopted until September 17), the Ohio river became the boundary of the territory. The fifth article of the ordinance reads as follows: "Art. 5. There shall be formed in the said (i. e., the Northwest) territory, not less than three, nor more than five states," * * * the western state in the said territory shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincents, due north, to the territorial line between the United States and Canada; and by the said territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and the Mississippi. (See Executive Documents, 3d session, 46th congress, 1880-81, Vol. 25, Doc. 47, Part 4, pages 153-156; also United States Statutes at Large, Vol. 1, page 51, note a.)

Indiana Territory. The ordinance of 1787 provided for the organization of three "states" out of the Northwest Territory. That same year the constitution of the United States was adopted. In 1799, Ohio organized a territorial government, but the middle and western "states" did not have, separately, sufficient population to warrant the establishment of two separate governments. Congress solved the difficulty by uniting the two under the name of Indiana. The act was passed May 7, 1800, and its first section reads as follows: "Section 1—Be it enacted, etc., that from and after the fourth day of July next, all that part of the territory of the United States, northwest of the Ohio river, which lies to the westward of a line beginning at the Ohio opposite the mouth of the Kentucky river, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north until it shall intersect the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall, for the purpose of temporary government, constitute a separate territory, and be called the Indiana Territory." (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 2, page 58.) Indiana was admitted as a state in 1816.

Michigan Territory. By an act of congress passed June 11, 1805, Michigan territory was formed. The boundaries were described as follows: "All that part of the Indiana territory which lies north of a line drawn east from the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan until it shall intersect Lake Erie, and east of a line drawn from the said southerly bend through the middle of said lake to its northern extremity, and thence due north to the northern boundary of the United States, shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory, to be called Michigan. (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 2, page 309.) Additions, noted further along in this article, were later made to this territory.

Illinois Territory. In 1809, settlers had come in so fast that

there were sufficient citizens in Indiana territory to support two governments. Accordingly, the territory of Illinois was established, February 3, 1809, by the following enactment: "Be it enacted, etc., That from and after the first day of March, next, all that part of the Indiana territory which lies west of the Wabash river and a direct line drawn from the said Wabash river and Post Vincennes, due north to the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall for the purpose of temporary government constitute a separate territory, and be called Illinois. (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 2, page 514.) Illinois was admitted as a state in 1818.

Michigan Territory. The population of Illinois continued to increase, and the people were eager for a state government. The southern portion was therefore granted statehood privileges, and the northern portion, mainly unoccupied, was cut off and added to the territory of Michigan, previously created. This transfer of territory was authorized in section 7 of the act passed April 18, 1818, enabling Illinois to form a state government and constitution. The terms of the act are as follows: "Section 7. And be it further enacted, That all that part of the territory of the United States lying north of the state of Indiana, and which was included in the former Indiana territory, together with that part of the Illinois territory which is situated north of, and not included within the boundaries prescribed by this act (viz., the boundaries of the state of Illinois) to the state thereby authorized to be formed, shall be and hereby is, attached to and made a part of the Michigan territory. Thus matters remained for sixteen years.

Missouri, in the meantime, had been admitted as a state (1821), and the territory north of that state, and west of the Mississippi, was practically without organized authority from that year until 1834, when the increase of settlement made it advisable that the benefits of some sort of government should be extended to its area. Consequently, Michigan territory was extended to include this vast region. The act so enlarging Michigan territory passed congress June 28, 1834, in the following terms: "Be it enacted, etc., That all that part of the territory of the United States, bounded on the east by the Mississippi river, on the south by the state of Missouri, and a line drawn due west from the northwest corner of said state to the Missouri river; on the southwest and west by the Missouri river and the White Earth river, falling into the same, and on the north by the northern boundary of the United States, shall be, and hereby is, for the purpose of temporary government attached to and made a part of, the territory of Michigan." (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 4, page 701.) In less than two years, certain territory was set apart

to form the proposed state of Michigan. This act passed congress April 20, 1836, but Michigan was not admitted until January 26, 1837. (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 5, pages 10-16.)

Wisconsin Territory. When Wisconsin territory was organized by an act of congress, April 20, 1836, all the Louisiana purchase north of the state of Missouri was placed under its jurisdiction. This included Mower county. The boundaries as given at that time were as follows: "Bounded on the east by a line drawn from the northeast corner of the state of Illinois through the middle of Lake Michigan to a point in the middle of said lake and opposite the main channel of Green Bay and through said channel and Green Bay to the mouth of the Menominee river, thence through the middle of the main channel of said river to that head of said river nearest the Lake of the Desert, thence in a direct line to the middle of said lake, thence through the middle of the main channel of the Montreal river to its mouth; thence with a direct line across Lake Superior to where the territorial line of the United States last touches said lake, northwest, thence on the north with the said territorial line to the White Earth river (located in what is now Wood county, North Dakota). On the west by a line from the said boundary line, following down the middle of the main channel of the White Earth river to the Missouri river, and down the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river to a point due west from the northwest corner of the state of Missouri; and on the south from said point due east to the northwest corner of the state of Missouri, and thence with the boundaries of the states of Missouri and Illinois as already fixed by act of congress. (U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 5, page 18.) It is interesting to note in this connection that two sessions of the Wisconsin territorial legislature were held at what is now Burlington, Iowa.

Iowa Territory. The territory of Iowa was created by the act of congress, June 12, 1838, which act divided the territory of Wisconsin along the Mississippi river and named the western part, Iowa. The act provided: "That from and after the third day of July, next, all that part of the present territory of Wisconsin which lies west of the Mississippi river and west of a line drawn due south from the head waters or sources of the Mississippi to the territorial lines, shall, for the purpose of temporary government, be and constitute a separate territorial government, by the name of Iowa." The area now embracing Mower county was included within these lines.

Iowa remained a territory from 1838 to 1846. The greater part of southern and southeastern Minnesota was within the jurisdiction of Clayton county. Henry H. Sibley was a justice of the peace in that county. The county seat was 250 miles

distant from his home in Mendota, and his jurisdiction extended over a region of country, which, as he expressed it, was "as large as the empire of France." A convention of duly authorized representatives of the people remained in session at Iowa City from October 7 to November 1, 1844, and framed a state constitution. It was provided that the constitution adopted, together with any alterations which might subsequently be made by congress, should be submitted to the people of the territory for their approval or rejection at the township elections in April, 1845. The boundaries of the proposed new state, as defined in the constitution, were in part as follows: " * * * Thence up in the middle of the main channel of the river last mentioned (the Missouri) to the mouth of the Sioux or Calumet river; thence in a direct line to the middle of the main channel of the St. Peter's (Minnesota) river, where the Watonwan river—according to Nicollet's map—enters the same, thence down the middle of the main channel of said river to the middle of the Mississippi river; thence down the middle of said river to the place of beginning." This would have included in the state of Iowa Mower county, and in fact, all the counties of what is now Minnesota that lie south and east of the Minnesota as far as Mankato, also including Faribault county and nearly all of Martin, the greater part of Blue Earth and portions of Watonwan, Cottonwood and Jackson.

Congress rejected these boundary lines, and March 3, 1845, in its enabling act, substituted the following description of the proposed boundaries: "Beginning at the mouth of the Des Moines river, in the middle of the Mississippi; thence by the middle of the channel of that river to the parallel of latitude passing through the mouth of the Mankato or Blue Earth river; thence west along said parallel of latitude to a point where it is intersected by a meridian line 17° 30' west of the meridian of Washington City; thence due south to the northern boundary line of the state of Missouri; thence eastwardly following that boundary to the point at which the same intersects with the Des Moines river; thence by the middle of the channel of that river to the place of beginning." Thus the southern boundary of Minnesota would have been on a line due east from the present city of Mankato to the Mississippi river and due west from the same point to a point in Brown county. This would have included in Iowa all but a small fraction of the counties of Winona, Olmstead, Dodge, Steele, Waseka and Blue Earth, portions of Brown, Watonwan and Martin; and all of Faribault, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston. This reduction in its proposed territory was not pleasing to those citizens of Iowa who wished the state to have its boundaries to include the Minnesota river from the Blue Earth to the Mississippi and the Mississippi from the Minne-

sota river to the Missouri state line. This changing in the boundary was really a political measure, a part of those battles in congress over free and slave states which preceded the Civil war. The boundaries as proposed by congress were rejected by the people of Iowa after a bitter campaign. August 4, 1846, congress passed a second enabling act, which was accepted by the people by a narrow margin of 456, the vote being 9,492 for and 9,036 against. This second act placed the northern boundary of Iowa still further south, but added territory to the west. The northern boundary of Iowa, as described in the enabling act, was identical with the parallel of 43° 30' north, from the Big Sioux river eastward to the Mississippi. This, with the exception of the short distance from the Big Sioux river to the present western boundary of Minnesota, is the present southern boundary of our state. Minnesota's southern boundary, as thus described, was carefully surveyed and marked within six years of its acceptance by Iowa. The work was authorized March 3, 1849, and two appropriations of \$1,500 each were soon made. The survey was completed during the years 1849 to 1852, at a total cost of \$32,277.73. Although the work was done with the best instruments then known, an error of twenty-three chains, evidently due to carelessness, was discovered within a year. Iowa was admitted as a state December 28, 1846.

Wisconsin State. Wisconsin soon wished to become a state. The northwestern boundary provoked considerable discussion both in congress and in the two constitutional conventions which were called. There were some who wished to include all the remaining portion of the northwest territory within the boundaries of the new proposed state. The two prevailing coteries, however, were the ones between whom the fight really centered. One body wished the northwestern boundary of the new state (Wisconsin) to extend up the Mississippi as far as the Rum river, where the city of Anoka is now situated, thence northeastwardly to the first rapids of the St. Louis river and thence to Lake Superior. The residents of the St. Croix valley, and those living on the east side of the Mississippi, between the St. Croix and the Rum river, constituted the other party and objected to being included in the proposed state of Wisconsin. They declared that they were separated from the settled portions of Wisconsin by hundreds of miles of barren land, and still more greatly separated by a difference in the interests and character of the inhabitants. They proposed that the northwest boundary of the new state should be a line drawn due south from Shagwanigan bay, on Lake Superior, to the intersection of the main Chippewa river, and from thence down the middle of said river to its debouchure into the Mississippi. Residents of the district affected and also about Fort Snelling and on the west bank of the Mississippi further up

joined in a memorial to congress, citing the grave injustice that would be done the proposed territory of Minnesota if it were left without a single point on the Mississippi below St. Anthony's falls, the limit of navigation. Among those who signed this memorial were H. H. Sibley and Alexander Faribault. The result of the controversy was a compromise adopting a middle line along the St. Croix and St. Louis rivers.

The enabling act for the state of Wisconsin, approved August 6, 1846, provided: "That the people of the territory of Wisconsin be and they are hereby authorized to form a constitution and state government * * * with the following boundaries, to-wit: * * * thence through the center of Lake Superior to the mouth of the St. Louis river, thence up the main channel of said river to the first rapids in the same, above the Indian village, according to Nicollet's map; thence due south to the main branch of the River St. Croix; thence down the main channel of said river to the Mississippi; thence down the main channel of said river to the northwest corner of the state of Illinois, thence due east * * *." This is the first and incidentally the present description of Minnesota's eastern boundary. (United States Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, page 56.)

The convention that framed the constitution of Wisconsin in 1847-48 strongly desired the Rum river as their eastern boundary. After accepting the boundary chosen by congress the convention recommended a line which, if agreeable to congress, should replace the one in the enabling act. The proposed boundary, which was rejected, was described as follows: Leaving the aforesaid boundary line at the first rapids of the St. Louis river, thence in a direct line, bearing southwestwardly to the mouth of the Iskodewabo or Rum river, where the same empties into the Mississippi river, thence down the main channel of the said Mississippi river to the aforesaid boundary. (Charters and Constitutions of the United States, Part ii, page 2030.)

Minnesota Territory. The events which led up to the establishing of Minnesota as a territory can be given but brief mention here. Sufficient is it to say that for three years after the admission of Iowa (in 1846) the area that is now Minnesota, west of the Mississippi, was practically a no-man's land. December 18, 1846, Morgan L. Martin, delegate from Wisconsin territory, gave notice to the house of representatives that "at an early day" he would ask leave to introduce a bill establishing the territorial government of Minnesota. The name, which is the Indian term for what was then the river St. Peter (Pierre) and has now become its official designation was, it is believed, applied to the proposed territory at the suggestion of Joseph R. Brown. During its consideration by congress the bill underwent various changes. As

reported back to the house, the name "Minnesota" had been changed by Stephen A. Douglas to "Itasca." Mr. Martin immediately moved that the name "Minnesota" be placed in the bill in place of "Itasca." "Chippewa," "Jackson" and "Washington" were also proposed. After many motions, counter motions and amendments, "Minnesota" was placed in the bill, which with a minor change passed the house. In the senate it was rejected. A second attempt was made two years later. January 10, 1848, Stephen A. Douglas gave due notice to the senate that "at a future day" he would introduce a bill to establish the territory of Minnesota. He brought in the bill February 23. It was several times read, was amended, referred to committee and discussed, but congress adjourned August 14 without taking ultimate action on the proposition.

In the meantime Wisconsin was admitted to the Union May 29, 1848, and the western half of what was then St. Croix county was left outside the new state. The settled portions of the area thus cut off from Wisconsin by its admission to statehood privileges were in the southern part of the peninsula of land lying between the Mississippi and the St. Croix.

The people of this area were now confronted with a serious problem. As residents of the territory of Wisconsin they had enjoyed the privileges of citizenship in the United States. By the creation of the state of Wisconsin they were disfranchised and left without the benefits of organized government. Thus, Stillwater, which had been the governmental seat of a growing county (St. Croix), was left outside the pale of organized law. Legal minds disagreed on the question of whether the minor civil officers, such as justices of the peace, created under the territorial organization, were still qualified to exercise the authority of their positions. At a meeting held at St. Paul, in July, 1848, the citizens of that (then) village considered the necessity for the formation of a new territory. August 5 a meeting of citizens of the area west of the St. Croix was held at Stillwater, and it was decided to call a general convention at that place, August 26, 1848, for a three-fold purpose: 1—To elect a territorial delegate to congress. 2—To organize a territory with a name other than Wisconsin. 3—To determine whether the laws and organization of the old territory of Wisconsin were still in effect now that a part of that territory was organized as a state. In the call for this meeting, the signers called themselves, "We, the undersigned citizens of Minnesota territory." The meeting was held pursuant to the call. Action was taken in regard to the first proposition by the election of H. H. Sibley, who was authorized to proceed to Washington and use such efforts as were in his power to secure the organization of the territory of Minnesota. In regard to the

second proposition a memorial was addressed to the president of the United States, stating the reasons why the organization of Minnesota territory was necessary. The third proposition presented technical points worthy of the attention of the wisest legal minds. The state of Wisconsin had been organized, but the territory of Wisconsin had not been abolished. Was not, therefore, the territory still in existence, and did not its organization and its laws still prevail in the part of the territory that had not been included in the state? If territorial government was in existence would it not give the residents thereof a better standing before the nation in their desire to become Minnesota territory? Might not this technicality give the delegate a seat in congress when otherwise he must, as simply the representative of an unorganized area, make his requests in the lobby and to the individual members? John Catlin, who had been secretary of the territory of Wisconsin before the organization of that state, declared that the territory still existed in the area not included in the organized state and that he was the acting governor. Accordingly, the people of the cut-off portion organized as the "Territory of Wisconsin," and named a day for the election of a delegate. In the closely contested election, held October 30, 1848, Sibley won out against Henry M. Rice and accordingly made his way to Washington, technically from the "Territory of Wisconsin," actually as a representative of the proposed territory of Minnesota. As a matter of fact, indeed, Sibley, living at Mendota, had ceased to be a citizen of the territory of Wisconsin in 1838, when Iowa territory was created, and was a resident of the part of Iowa territory which the organization of the state of Iowa had left without a government, rather than of that territory in question (between the Mississippi and the St. Croix) which the admission of Wisconsin as a state had left without a government. Sibley was, however, after much opposition, admitted to congress and given a seat January 15, 1849. He at once set about securing friends for the proposition to create Minnesota territory. December 4, 1848, a few days previous to Sibley's admission to congress, Stephen A. Douglas had announced that it was his intention to introduce anew a bill to establish the territory of Minnesota. Like the previous attempt, this bill underwent various vicissitudes. As passed, March 3, 1849, the act creating the territory read as follows: "Be it enacted, * * * That from and after the passage of this act, all that part of the territory of the United States which lies within the following limits, to-wit: Beginning in the Mississippi river at a point where the line of 43° and 30' of north latitude crosses the same, thence running due west on said line, which is the northern boundary of the state of Iowa, to the northwest corner of the said state of Iowa; thence southerly along the west-

ern boundary of said state to the point where said boundary strikes the Missouri river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the Missouri river to the mouth of the White Earth river; thence up the middle of the main channel of the White Earth river to the boundary line between the possessions of the United States and Great Britain; thence east and south of east along the boundary line between the possessions of the United States and Great Britain to Lake Superior; thence in a straight line to the northernmost point of the state of Wisconsin, in Lake Superior; thence along the western boundary of the state of Wisconsin to the Mississippi river; thence down the main channel of said river to the place of beginning, and the same is hereby erected into a temporary government by the name of the territory of Minnesota."

The executive power of the territory of Minnesota was vested in a governor, (appointed by the president, whose term of office was four years, unless sooner removed by the president), who was also superintendent of Indian affairs. The legislative power was vested in a governor and a legislative assembly, consisting of a council of nine members, whose term of office was two years, and a house of representatives of eighteen members, whose term of office was one year. It was provided that the number of members in the council and the house might be increased by the legislative assembly from time to time in proportion to the increase in population, but that the whole number should not exceed fifteen councillors and thirty-nine representatives. It was provided that the first election should be held at such time and place and be conducted in such manner as the governor should appoint and direct, and that the persons thus elected to the legislative assembly should meet at such place, and on such days as the governor should appoint, but thereafter the time and place and manner of holding and conducting all elections by the people, and the apportioning the representatives in the several counties and districts, to the council and house of representatives, according to the population, should be prescribed by law, as well as the day of the commencement of the regular sessions of the legislative assembly, but that no session should exceed sixty days.

Every white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one, who was a resident of the territory at the time of the passage of the act organizing the same, was entitled to vote and eligible to office at the first election. But the qualification of voters and of holding office at all subsequent elections should be such as should be prescribed by the legislative assembly. It was provided by the act that all laws passed by the legislative assembly should be submitted to congress, and if disapproved by it, should be null and of no effect. The laws in force in the territory of Wisconsin after

the date of the admission of the state of Wisconsin were continued to be valid and in operation in the territory of Minnesota so far as not incompatible with the provisions of the act of organization of the territory of Minnesota, subject to be altered, modified or repealed by the governor and legislative assembly of said territory. All justices of the peace, constables, sheriffs and all other judicial and ministerial officers who were in office within the limits of the territory at the time of law organizing the territory was approved were authorized and required to continue to exercise and perform the duties of their respective offices as officers of the territory of Minnesota temporarily and until they, or others, should be appointed and qualified in the manner therein described or until their offices should be abolished.

The governor was given the veto power, and the council and house could pass a bill over his veto by a two-thirds vote. The judicial power of the territory was vested in a supreme court, district court, probate court and in justices of the peace. The supreme court consisted of a chief justice and two associate justices, appointed by the president, whose term of office was four years and whose salary was \$1,800 a year.

The territory was by the act of organization required to be divided into three judicial districts, and the district court to be held therein by one of the judges of the supreme court at such times and places as might be prescribed by law, and the judges thereof were required to reside in the districts assigned to them. The clerks of said courts were appointed by the judges thereof.

The United States officers of the territory were a governor, secretary, chief justice, two associate justices, attorney and marshal, appointed by the president with the advice and consent of the senate of the United States. The governor received a salary of \$1,500 a year as governor and \$1,000 a year as superintendent of Indian affairs. The chief justice and associate justices and secretary received a salary of \$1,800 a year, and the members of the legislative assembly \$3 a day during their attendance upon the sessions thereof and \$3 each day for every twenty miles traveled going to and returning therefrom.

State of Minnesota. The people of the territory of Minnesota were not long content with a territorial government. In the words of A. N. Winchell, "December 24, 1856, the delegate from the territory of Minnesota introduced a bill to authorize the people of that territory to form a constitution and state government. The bill limited the proposed state on the west by the Red River of the North and the Big Sioux river. It was referred to the committee on territories, of which Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, was chairman. January 31, 1857, the chairman reported a substitute, which differed from the original bill in no essential

respect except in regard to the western boundary. The change there consisted in adopting a line through Traverse and Big Stone lakes, due south from the latter to the Iowa line. The altered boundary cut off a narrow strip of territory, estimated by Mr. Grow to contain between five and six hundred square miles. Today the strip contains such towns as Sioux Falls, Watertown and Brookings. The substitute had a stormy voyage through congress, especially in the senate, but finally completed the trip on February 25, 1857."

The enabling act, as passed and approved February 26, 1857, defined the boundaries of Minnesota as follows: "Be it enacted, * * * That the inhabitants of that portion of the territory of Minnesota, which is embraced with the following limits, to-wit: Beginning at the point in the center of the main channel of the Red River of the North, where the boundary line between the United States and the British possessions crosses the same; thence up the main channel of said river to that of the Bois des Sioux river; thence (up) the main channel of said river to Lake Travers; thence up the center of said lake to the southern extremity thereof; thence in a direct line to the head of Big Stone lake; thence through its center to its outlet; thence by a due south line to the north line of the state of Iowa; thence east along the northern boundary of said state to the main channel of the Mississippi river; thence up the main channel of said river and following the boundary line of the state of Wisconsin, until the same intersects the St. Louis river; thence down said river to and through Lake Superior, on the boundary line of Wisconsin and Michigan, until it intersects the dividing line between the United States and the British possession; thence up Pigeon river and following said dividing line to the place of beginning; be and the same are thereby authorized to form for themselves a constitution and state government, by the name of the state of Minnesota, and to come into the Union on an equal footing with the original states, according to the federal constitution."

These boundaries were accepted without change and are the boundaries of the state at the present time. The state was admitted May 11, 1858.

It will therefore be seen that the territorial claim of title to Mower county was first embraced in the papal grant to Spain, May 4, 1493. It was then included in the indefinite claims made by Spain to lands north and northwest of her settlements in Mexico, Florida and the West Indies; by the English to lands west of their Atlantic coast settlements, and by the French to lands south, west and southwest of their Canadian settlements. The first definite claim to territory now embracing Mower county was made by La Salle at the mouth of the Mississippi, March 8, 1682, in the

name of the king of France, and the second (still more definite) by Perrot near the present site of Trempealeau, Wis., May 8, 1689. This was also a French claim. France remained in tacit authority until February 10, 1763, when, upon England's acknowledging the French authority to lands west of the Mississippi, France, by a previous secret agreement, turned her authority over to Spain. October 1, 1800, Spain ceded the tract to France, but France did not take formal possession until November 30, 1803, and almost immediately, December 20, 1803, turned it over to the United States, the Americans having purchased it from Napoleon April 30 of that year.

March 26, 1804, the area that is now Mower county was included in Louisiana district as a part of Indiana and so remained until March 3, 1805. From March 3, 1805, to June 4, 1812, it was a part of Louisiana territory. From June 4, 1812, until August 10, 1820, it was a part of Missouri territory. From August 10, 1821, until June 28, 1834, it was outside the pale of all organized government, except that congress had general jurisdiction. From June 28, 1834, to April 20, 1836, it was a part of Michigan territory. From April 20, 1836, to June 12, 1838, it was a part of Wisconsin territory. From June 12, 1838, to December 28, 1846, it was a part of the territory of Iowa and was included in the boundaries at first proposed for the state of Iowa. From December 28, 1846, to March 3, 1849, it was again without territorial affiliation. From March 3, 1849, to May 11, 1858, it was a part of Minnesota territory, and on the latter date became an integral part of that sovereign state.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY EXPLORATION.

No Evidence That the French Explorers Ever Saw Mower County
—United States Dragoons the First White Men to Leave a
Record of Having Visited This Locality—Expedition of 1835
—Four Companies Under Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen W.
Kearney, with Albert Lea in Command of Company I, Cross
Mower County Twice—Major Lawrence Taliaferro, Dr. John
Emerson and the Slave, Dred Scott, Visit the County in 1836
—Henry H. Sibley, Alexander Faribault, John C. Fremont
and William H. Forbes Here in 1840—Surveying Party in
1852—Another in 1853—Township and Section Lines Are
Surveyed.

From time immemorial until some time after the coming of the whites, the territory now embraced in Mower county was the hunting ground of the Indians. As there were no permanent Indian villages here, and little of geographic interest in the sweep of prairie now embraced in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa, none of the earlier explorers, so far as we know, visited Mower county. Hennepin with his two companions, Pickard du Guy (Auguelle) and Michael Accault (Ako), who explored the upper Mississippi in 1680; Perrot, who had trading posts about Lake Pepin as early as 1685; LeSueur, who built a fort near Red Wing on Prairie Island in 1695, and one near Mankato in 1700; La Hontan, who wrote marvelous accounts of adventures, and who is now entirely discredited by historians; Jonathan Carver, who ascended the upper Mississippi in 1766; Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike, who explored the upper Mississippi in 1805-06; Colonel Henry Leavenworth, who in 1819 started at Mendota in what is now Dakota county, the fort which was afterward moved across the river and became Fort Snelling; Major Stephen H. Long, who explored the upper Mississippi in 1817 and 1823; Governor Lewis Cass, who in 1820 explored the principal sources of the Mississippi and then descended the river; William Morrison, who visited Lake Itasca in 1802 and is usually credited as the discoverer of the source of the Mississippi; Henry R. Schoolcraft, who in 1832 explored northern Minnesota; George Featherstone, who made a geological survey of the Minnesota valley in 1835; George Catlin, who made a faithful study of the Indians of Minnesota; Jean Nicolle, whose activities in the thirties and forties contributed much to Minnesota geography, and David Dale Owen, who explored large portions of the state in 1847, '48, '49 and '50,

and whose names are honored as the early explorers of Minnesota, all failed, so far as we know, to make Mower county a visit. The explorers of the rivers of Iowa which have their source in Mower county, also failed to reach this county in the early days.

It is possible that missionaries, renegades, traders or hunters visited this region, in the days of the early exploration, but of this historians have no record or knowledge, although those who enjoy speculation and conjecture think it quite possible the Frenchmen from the posts of Perrot on Lake Pepin, the stockades at Frontenac, or the forts at Prairie Island and Mankato may have come here after game.

The first record that historians have obtained of a visit to Mower county by the whites is contained in a manuscript edited and published by the Iowa Historical Society, and entitled "A Journal of Marches by the First United States Dragoons, 1834-45," and published in the July, 1909, issue of the "Iowa Journal of History and Politics."

The First United States Dragoons was a military organization created by Congress in March, 1833, for the more perfect defense of the frontier, and was as fine a body of men as had ever been gathered for a similar purpose, having been recruited from especially selected men in every state in the Union in the summer months of 1833. The commanding officer of this regiment of ten companies were Colonel Henry Dodge. The rendezvous of the regiment was Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, where the companies were drilled and instructed in the fall of 1833.

The Journal records the four distinct marches or campaigns in which Company I participated. Of these the fourth only is of interest to the people of Mower county. The authorship of the Journal has not yet been determined. At two different places the author has signed himself as "L" and he states that he was a member of Company I, commanded by Captain Browne. At one time the authorship was attributed to Colonel Albert Miller Lea, but internal evidence in the Journal would seem to prove, however, that such is not the case, and that it was written either by an officer of lower rank or by a private.

The fourth trip, which has so much interest to the people of Mower county, records the story of a march of 1,100 miles by Companies B, H and I, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen W. Kearney. On June 7, 1835, this detachment left Fort Des Moines and marched between the Des Moines and Skunk rivers to near the mouth of the Boone river. Then taking a northeastwardly course across Iowa, they entered what is now Minnesota, crossed Mower county, and reached Wabashaw's village on the Mississippi at practically the present site of Winona. After remaining there about a week, the companies marched somewhat to the

south of westwardly. They crossed the present Mower county and continued westward, then turning southward, and entering Iowa in what is now Kossuth county, reaching the Des Moines river safely. After crossing this river, they descended it on the lower side and reached Fort Des Moines on August 19, 1835, without the loss of a single horse or man. Lieutenant Albert Miller Lea, commanding Company I, of the expedition, was the official topographer, and in his honor Nicollet afterward named a previously undesignated lake which the expedition passed in the present Freeborn county.

On the evening of Sunday, June 28, 1835, the Dragoons, on their northeasterly course from the Des Moines river, camped on the banks of the Red Cedar river in Mitchell county, Iowa, near Osage. The soldiers killed several buffalo and captured a buffalo calf. The next day they crossed the Red Cedar and marched twenty-five miles, bringing them well into Mower county. The following entry is found in the Journal: "Tuesday, June 30, 1835, marched twenty-five miles. Land, kind of oak barren. By the appearance of some deserted wigwams, we suppose the Sioux (Sioux) have been here lately." The next day's march of twelve miles, carried the soldiers out of the county and toward the present site of Winona.

On the return journey, the expedition reached Mower county on Monday, July 27, 1835. The soldiers crossed the upper Iowa near the present site of Le Roy and the Red Cedar near the present site of Austin, continuing on their way into the present Freeborn county. The entries in the Journal are as follows: "Monday, July 27, 1835. An early start. Came only ten miles. Crossed the Iway (the upper Iowa). Spent seven hours in crossing. Bad traveling and bad encampment. Tuesday, July 28. This day we marched fifteen miles. Crossed the south fork of the Iway (now the Red Cedar river). Spent three hours in passing. Marching bad. Encampment good." It will be seen from this that the writer of the Journal underestimated the distance that the Dragoons traveled from the upper Iowa to the Red Cedar river.

In 1836, one year after the trip of the Dragoons, and six years after the ceding of the "Neutral Strip" (just south of Mower county), a party of officers started on a hunting trip from Fort Snelling. They reached the present site of Faribault, came down the source of the Straight river, touched the head waters of the Zumbro branch east of Blooming Prairie, and then reached the Red Cedar, passing through what is now Mower county. Somewhere after leaving the Zumbro, and before reaching the "Neutral Strip," they camped for the night, and from the locations given in Taliaferro's journal, the camp must have been

somewhere near what is now Austin. The party was headed by Major Lawrence Taliaferro, and among the hunters was Dr. John Emerson, the surgeon at Fort Snelling. With Dr. Emerson was his slave Dred, who had just been married to Harriett, whom Major Taliaferro had sold to Dr. Emerson. This Dred afterward became world famous in the "Dred Scott case," which was one of the incidents in the train of events which did not end until the close of the Civil war.

A party of famous pioneer hunters visited Mower county in 1840. In the fall of that year Henry H. Sibley, Alexander Faribault, William H. Forbes and John C. Fremont started with a party of Sioux and two Canadian voyageurs for the "Neutral Land" which the government had purchased from the Sioux, the Sax and the Foxes. Jack Fraser joined the party near the present city of Faribault. The party reached the Red Cedar river somewhere in the present Mower county. At some point on this river a camp was made, and Sibley, Fraser and two Canadians accompanied Fremont to Prairie du Chien, where Jean N. Nicollet awaited him. Leaving Fremont at that point, the four returned to the camp, being accompanied a part of the way by a hunter named Reed. A few days later the party of white men left the Sioux in camp on the Red Cedar and returned to Mendota.

In October, 1841, H. H. Sibley, then thirty years of age, was agent at Mendota, across the river from Fort Snelling, Minnesota, for the American Fur Company. He was active and vigorous to obtain skins and peltries for the company. He made a feast, invited the Sioux, killed two fat oxen and provided wild rice and other inducements suitable for an Indian holiday. Invitations had been sent out to the neighboring villages, and nearly a thousand men, squaws and children came to the feast. After the Indians had satisfied their hunger and had smoked his tobacco, Sibley explained to them that his object was to enlist a party to go to the south that coming winter and hunt on the neutral ground and around the headwaters of the Red Cedar. Small sticks six inches long and painted red were produced and one was offered to each grown hunter. It had been explained to them that whoever voluntarily accepted one of these red sticks thereby enlisted for the winter's hunt. About one hundred and fifty men thus enlisted. These men then assembled a short distance from the scene of the feast and chose ten of their number, whom they called soldiers, to have control of the hunting. These ten, after consulting together, announced the rules to govern the hunt and notified the enlisted men to appear on the hill south of Mendota in six days thereafter with their ponies, squaws, dogs and buffalo skin tents ready to start.

At the appointed time the party assembled and started south. The chief Indian of the party was Little Crow, father of the chief of the same name who took part in the massacre of 1862. The usual day's progress was about ten miles. They went from Mendota south over the prairie until they struck the Cannon river, near Northfield, then up that, and the Straight river, by Fairbault and Owatonna, to near Cooleysville, in the southeastern part of Steele county. There they crossed over to the Cedar river and came down its right hand bank to the timber at this place, Austin, or a little south of here, and camped for the winter.

Sibley was with them, clad in Indian costume, with double-barreled rifle, pistols and two big wolf dogs at his heels. He had with him two French-Canadians and a number of kegs of powder and other goods on carts, to sell to the Indians and hold claim to the furs and skins which the hunt should produce.

On his advice, the Indians built here a stockade. Posts with crotch on their tops were set firmly into the ground. Poles were laid on top from post to post. Then other posts, ten feet or more in length, were set, one end on the ground and the other leaning against the poles. Brush and the tops of trees were cut and piled by the squaws with great industry, outside against the line of posts until it was impossible for an enemy to break through without consuming a good deal of time, all the while exposed to the fire, through loopholes, of the good marksmen within. This was the first structure of any kind built in what is now Mower county. Sibley and the Indians alike put small trust in the treaty of amity concluded at Prairie du Chien. They well knew that such treaties between Indians usually end in treachery and bloodshed. Now that they were on the border of their own country and about to hunt over the neutral ground, where in fact they had no right, they deemed it expedient to build this stockade as a safeguard. There was a great abundance of game on this neutral ground, as it had not been hunted over since its relinquishment eleven years before, to the United States, by the treaty of July 15, 1830.

One day Sibley went out early with his two wolf dogs for a still hunt, alone. In his absence Little Crow, always reckless and daring, went off south, down toward the forks of the Cedar, near where Charles City now stands, for a three days' hunt on the border or even over the line in the enemies' country. He took with him nearly all the young men of the camp. When Sibley returned at sunset, the squaws told him of Little Crow's absence and that a hostile Indian spy had been seen lurking in the vicinity. He at once sallied forth with his dogs to verify the report. There was no mistake, for in the light snow on the ground he saw the moccasin tracks of the spy. He armed the old men and boys remaining in the camp, assigned to each his place and

awaited the expected attack. About three o'clock in the morning, the Indian dogs outside began to bark furiously. The women screamed and the old men sang their death songs. Sibley ordered silence and directed that every pistol and gun be shot off as rapidly as possible and reloaded. He himself fired five shots from his gun and pistols. The enemy were thereby deceived as to the number of fighting men in camp and made no attack. After sunrise next morning the ground was examined and it was apparent that at least fifty hostile warriors had tied their horses to trees in a grove at some distance away. An Indian boy was sent with all speed to Little Crow's camp down the river, to tell the news and order him to return without delay. About midnight the hunters returned and Sibley's tense nervous anxiety abated.

At the close of each day, when the Indians came in, the ten so-called soldiers would announce the direction and limits of the next day's hunt. This limit would be about ten miles away, indicated by a stream or slough or a grove or by some other natural object. Early next morning some of these soldiers would go forward and station themselves along the limit line, to detect and punish anyone who should attempt to pass and frighten away the game beyond. The penalty for violation of the rules was in the discretion of these ten so-called soldiers. In aggravated cases they would slit down and cut up the offender's lodge, break his kettles and do other damage. This enterprising trader (afterward first governor of this state) says, in his narrative of the winter's events, that on one occasion he inadvertently got beyond the line fixed for that day's hunt. One of the soldiers, hid in the tall grass, sprang up and rushed upon him, seized his fine double-barreled gun, snatched his fur cap from his head and ordered him back to camp, saying he would cut up his tent when he returned in the evening. It was a cold day and Sibley had to ride bare-headed, ten miles to camp. The soldiers had supreme command of the hunting and all its rules and regulations. It was considered very disgraceful for any one whether hunter, trader or even chief of the tribe to disobey or resist these governors of the hunt. On the way in he devised a plan to mollify the soldiers and save his fine buffalo skin lodge. He got together all the good things he could muster and when the soldiers came in that night, he went out and invited all the ten to have supper with him in his lodge.

The temptation was too strong and they accepted, ate his supper, smoked his tobacco and each accepted a small present and agreed with him to overlook for once, his infraction of the rules. His cap and gun were restored, and as they say in diplomacy, the incident ended. But he fumigatead that cap before wearing it again.

The hunt was successful. Over 2,000 deer, fifty elk, as many

bears, five panthers and a few buffalo skins were obtained. The fur company sold for \$20 guns that cost \$6 in St. Louis. They got pay not in money but in furs, at their own price. This is a specimen of the profits of the fur trade. The Indians broke camp and returned to Mendota in March, before the spring thaw rendered the sloughs and streams impassable.

From 1849 to 1852 the northern boundary of Iowa was surveyed, the Mower county portion of the line being surveyed by a party under Captain Andrew Talcott in 1852.

The First, Second and Third Guide Meridians, the second being just east of Austin, were surveyed by the late Hon. Thomas Simpson, of Winona, in 1853.

The First Standard Parallel, which forms the northern boundary of Udolpho, Waltham and Sargeant, was surveyed in 1853 by E. S. Morris.

The boundaries of townships 101, 102, 103 and 104 in range 14, were surveyed in 1853 by John Ball, and subdivided into sections the same year by John Tylor.

The boundaries of townships 101, 102, 103 and 104 in range 15, were surveyed in 1853 by John Ball, and subdivided into sections the same year by John Quigley.

The boundaries of townships 101, 102, 103 and 104 in range 16, were surveyed in 1853 by John Ball. Andrew Talcott subdivided township 101, range 16, in 1854; John Quigley, townships 102 and 103, range 16, in 1853; and John Fitzpatrick, township 104, range 16, in 1853.

The boundaries of townships 101, 102, 103 and 104, in range 17, were surveyed in 1853 and subdivided the same year. In township 101, range 17, John Ball and Andrew Talcott surveyed the boundaries and C. Phipps and E. Fitzpatrick surveyed the section lines. In townships 102 and 103, range 17, the boundaries were surveyed by John Bell and E. S. Morris, and the section lines by William J. Anderson. In township 104, range 17, E. S. Morris surveyed the township boundaries and John Fitzpatrick surveyed the section lines.

The boundaries of townships 101, 102, 103 and 104, in range 18, were surveyed in 1854 and the section lines drawn the same year. In township 101, range 18, the boundaries were surveyed by J. B. Raymond and E. S. Morris and the section lines by William A. Anderson and Andrew Talcott. In township 102, range 18, the boundary lines were surveyed by J. B. Reyman and E. S. Morris, and the section lines by William A. Anderson. In townships 103 and 104, range 18, the boundary and sections lines were surveyed as in township 102, range 18, by the same persons.

In 1872, while digging a well on Bridge street, L. G. Basford discovered at a depth of twelve feet, two spherical shells of iron,

eight inches in circumference, containing coarse white sand and what was believed to be evidences of black powder. No authoritative theory has ever been advanced to account for the presence of these relics.

CHAPTER VI.

FIRST SETTLERS.

Colony of the Borderline Between Racine Township and Fillmore Colony—Arrivals in Le Roy Township—Early Settlement in Lyle and Lansing—Settlers of 1854—Influx of Population Begins.

The first settlement within the present limits of Mower county, of which there is any record, was probably made July 4, 1852, in what is now Racine township, section 1, township 103, range 14, by Jacob McQuillan, Sr., and his party, which consisted of nine children—of whom Jacob, Jr., brought his wife and family—and a son-in-law, Adam Zadyger. At that time no survey had been made, and as a matter of fact the land was not open to settlement, for although the Indian treaty of Mendota, which ceded the land to the whites, had at that time been signed by the Indians, and approved with amendments by the senate, the amendments had not been accepted by the Indians, nor the official proclamation issued by the president. Upon their arrival, the party camped by what is now known as the Hamilton spring. Before unhitching his team, Mr. McQuillan nailed a coffee mill to a tree, as a visible sign of his claim to a homestead. For a time the family lived in the wagons, later they took up their abode in a rude cabin of rough poplar logs. Near the place of the settlement were two springs, some ten rods apart. Jacob McQuillan, Sr., took the west spring, and the land west of it, while his son, Jacob, Jr., took the land east of this line, thus including in his property the most eastern of the two springs. The county line now runs a few rods to the eastward of the line between the claims of the McQuillans, Senior and Junior.

In 1854 a man named Booth pre-empted the quarter section that young McQuillan had claimed, the claim being located in what is now Fillmore county. This created trouble, and a force of the McQuillans' friends congregated, well armed, to put the intruder out of the way. Booth's friends gathered to meet the opposition, and a party of them spent the night in readiness for the fray. The McQuillan party sent out an advance guard, which

was met by a few of Booth's friends, near the present site of Hamilton. When the McQuillan party discovered that Booth and his friends were prepared to meet them and defend his claim, they soon dispersed. The place was in litigation for some time, and resulted not only in a victory for Booth, but also in the financial ruin of the McQuillans. This land, as has already been stated, was just over the line in Fillmore county, and included the site of the village of Hamilton.

Jacob McQuillan, Sr., occupied his claim in Mower county several months and then moved to Fillmore county, renting his claim to Thomas W. Corey. About a year later he sold his Mower county property. He improved a claim in Fillmore county, and there lived until after the war. At the age of seventy-three he returned to Ohio, and there died shortly afterward. He was a powerful man with an iron constitution; very kind and hospitable, and well liked generally, though he was uneducated, and possessed of the roughness and gruffness of the typical fore-runners of pioneer settlement.

Thomas W. Corey, already mentioned, made the second settlement in Racine township in the spring of 1853. He was a native of Massachusetts, and came from Illinois, overland, by way of Davenport and Decorah. He settled on the McQuillan claim and erected a log cabin, 18 by 22, in which he often entertained travelers, the cabin being on the then traveled route between Decorah and Mantorville. The charge was usually forty cents for two meals and lodging. Their postoffice and trading point was Decorah, Iowa.

After a time Mr. Corey moved across the line into Fillmore county and erected the first hotel in Hamilton. In 1880 he removed to Tennessee and died there two years later.

The second point of settlement in Mower county was also near the border line. In 1852 Isaac Van Houghton, who assisted in surveying the boundary line between the state of Iowa and the then territory of Minnesota, was much pleased with the vicinity of what is now Le Roy township. A year later he induced several of his fellow citizens of Lansing, Iowa, to join him in a colonizing venture. Consequently, some time during the summer of 1853, Isaac Van Houghton, George Squires, J. S. Priest, Moses Niles and Isaac Armstrong came to the extreme southeastern part of Le Roy township. Van Houghton claimed the southeast quarter of section 36 and Squires the northeast quarter of the same section. This, however, was before the survey, and when the lines were laid it was found that their claims were on school lands and not subject to homestead entry. Armstrong claimed the west half of section 33, while Priest and Niles claimed the southeast half of section 35. These claims are located approximately, for, as

before stated, no section lines were drawn until later in the year. All five of these claimants sold out within a short time.

The western part of the county received four settlers in 1853. "Hunter" (H. O. or O. P.) Clark, who settled in Lansing township; one Woodbury and his son-in-law, Pinkerton, who settled in Lyle township, and Austin Nichols, who settled on the present site of Austin.

Clark took a claim and settled in the northwest quarter of section 34, in Lansing township. He built a log cabin a short distance northeast of where Oakwood cemetery is now located. May 8, 1855, he sold his claim to William Baudler and moved west. The last seen of him was in Idaho.

One Woodbury, accompanied by a son-in-law, Pinkerton, came to Lyle township in the fall of 1853 and claimed a large tract of land bordering on the Red Cedar and on the creek that bears his name. He erected a log cabin on the northwest quarter of section 33. Woodbury sold his claim in June, 1855, and moved to Olmsted county.

Austin Nichols hunted along the Cedar in 1852, and in 1853 reached the present site of Austin. In his reminiscences he does not state whether he spent the winter of 1853-54 here. At any rate, he drove his first claim stake June 8, 1854.

In 1855 the real influx of settlers began, and from then until 1860 the pioneers came in rapidly. A full account of the settlement of the various localities in the county is found in the separate township histories in this volume.

CHAPTER VII.

ORGANIZATION AND BOUNDARY LINES.

Mower County Included in Wabasha and Rice Counties—Mower County Created—Organized by Governor Gorman—Commissioners Meet at Frankford—Old Election Precincts—Township Boundaries.

Mower county was included in the original limits of Wabasha county (then spelled Wabashaw), which was one of the nine counties created by the first territorial legislature.

Governor Alexander Ramsey, the first territorial governor, arrived in St. Paul, May 27, 1849, and on June 1, 1849, issued his first proclamation. June 11 he issued a second proclamation, dividing the territory into three judicial districts. Mower county, then unpopulated, was included in the third judicial district, with Judge David Cooper on the bench. Court for this district was to be held at Mendota.

July 7, 1849, the governor issued a proclamation dividing the territory into seven council districts and ordering an election. Mower county was included in the seventh district.

The first session of the legislative assembly of the territory of Minnesota was held at St. Paul, commencing September 3, 1849.

By an act approved October 27, 1849, the territory was divided into the counties of Washington, Ramsey, Benton, Itasca, Wabashaw, Dakota, Wahnahta, Mahkahto and Pembina. Only the counties of Washington, Ramsey and Benton were fully organized for all county purposes. The others were organized only for the purpose of appointment of justices of the peace, constables, and such other judicial and ministerial offices as might be specially provided for. They were entitled to "any number of justices of the peace and constables, not exceeding six in number, to be appointed by the governor, and their term of office was made two years, unless sooner removed by the governor," and they were made conservators of the peace.

Wabashaw county, as "erected" by the act of October 27, 1849, comprised practically all of the southern part of the present state of Minnesota. Its northern boundary was the parallel running through the mouth of the St. Croix and the mouth of the Yellow Medicine rivers; its southern boundary was the Iowa line; its eastern the Mississippi, and its western the Missouri, and it also included the big peninsula between the Missouri and the Big Sioux rivers, and all of what is at present southeastern South

Dakota. Of this vast county the present Mower county was a part.

Chapter 1, Revised Statutes of Minnesota of 1851, divides the territory in Benton, Dakota, Itasca, Cass, Pembina, Ramsey, Washington, Chisago and Wabashaw counties and defines their boundaries. Under the revised statutes, all the territory west of the Mississippi river and east of a line running from Medicine Bottle's village at Pine Bend, due south to the Iowa line, was erected into a separate county to be known as Wabashaw. This included in Wabashaw county a portion of what is now Dakota county as well as all the present counties of Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Mower, Fillmore and Houston. The line south from Pine Bend in the Mississippi strikes practically the western boundary of Mower county, the exact line being impossible of verification as the Medicine Bottle tepee were differently located at various times, always, however, being within a few rods of the bend in the river.

Rice county was created by act of the territorial legislature, March 5, 1853. Section 7, Chapter 15, General Laws of Minnesota, 1853, gives the boundaries as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Dakota county, thence west along said county line to Lake Sakatah, thence south to the Iowa state line, thence east along said state line to the southwest corner of Fillmore county, thence along the west lines of Fillmore, Wabasha and Goodhue counties to the place of beginning.

It will thus be seen that the starting point of Rice county, as then constituted, was at the "southwest corner of Dakota county." The west and south lines of Dakota county are described in the act as follows: "Beginning in the Minnesota at the mouth of the Credit river, thence on a direct line to the upper branch of the Cannon river, thence down said river to its lowest fork." The upper branch of the Cannon river is the Straight river, and consequently this boundary line of Rice county started at the confluence of these rivers, at the present site of Faribault, ran southwestward to Lake Sakatah; and thence south, crossing Waseca and Freeborn counties about on the range line between ranges twenty-two and twenty-three, to the Iowa line. Thence it ran along to the Iowa border to a little village called Granger in township 101, range eleven, Fillmore county. Thence it ran in a direct line, due northwest to the place of beginning.

Rice county therefore took in only a part of the present Rice county. It included the four eastern townships in Waseca county, and all but the four western townships in Freeborn county. It also took in practically all of Mower and Steele counties, about one-third of Dodge, a very small portion of Fillmore and Goodhue, and possibly a few sections in Olmsted county.

In February, 1854, the government survey having been made,

the eastern boundary was altered somewhat and assumed definite lines, the line between what is now Fillmore, and that part of the then Rice county which is now Mower county, being the present boundary between Mower and Fillmore counties.

February 20, 1855, the counties of Mower, Brown, Carver, Dodge, Faribault, Freeborn, Olmsted, Renville, Steele, Stearns and Wright were created by the legislature, and some changes of name made in others. Mower county included townships, 101, 102, 103 and 104, north; ranges 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, west of the Fifth principal meridian. In May, 1857, sections 1 to 6, inclusive, in township 104, ranges 14 and 15, were cut off and added to Olmsted county. Since then, no changes have been made in the boundary lines of the county. The county contains 453,120 acres, or 708 square miles. The congressional survey was made in 1853-54, being completed in February, 1854, sufficiently for a definite description of the county boundaries by the legislature.

March 1, 1856, Governor Gorman, agreeable to the act of the legislature, and upon representations made to him that Mower county was sufficiently populated to warrant its being duly furnished with county government, organized the county, and appointed a temporary board of county commissioners, consisting of George White, Philip Howell and William Russell. This board was given full power and authority such as usually devolves upon such boards, with the additional duty of locating, temporarily, the county seat.

These commissioners met April 7, 1856, in the village of Frankford, and presumably located the county seat temporarily in that place. They appointed officers as follows: Register of deeds and clerk of the board of commissioners, Timothy M. Chapman; treasurer, Lewis Patchin; judge of probate, C. J. Felch; surveyor, Moses Armstrong; sheriff, G. W. Sherman. These were the only officers for which appointments were then made.

OLD PRECINCT BOUNDARIES.

The early county commissioners divided the county into election precincts, road districts and school districts. The old election precincts were the parents of the present townships and in many cases the original names still survive.

Following is the summary of the precincts, created from the time of the meeting of the first elected board of county commissioners, April 7, 1856, down to April 16, 1858, when the townships of the county were defined and given the authority to maintain local government.

Austin. Originally created as an election precinct April 7, 1856, and contained at that time the present towns of Udolpho,

Waltham, Lansing, Red Rock, Austin, Windom, Lyle and Nevada. July 7, 1856, the boundaries of the precinct were curtailed, and made to contain the south halves of the present towns of Lansing and Red Rock, and all of Austin, Windom, Lyle and Nevada. April 16, 1856, it was still further curtailed, leaving only the south halves of Lansing and Red Rock, and all of Austin and Windom. April 16, 1858, the township assumed its present boundaries, and was duly organized May 11, of that year.

High Forest. Originally created as an election precinct, April 7, 1856. It comprised the present towns of Racine, Pleasant Valley and Sargeant.

Frankford. Originally created as an election precinct, April 7, 1856, and contained at that time the present towns of Dexter, Grand Meadow, Frankford, Marshall, Clayton, Bennington, Adams, Lodi and Le Roy. Le Roy was cut off July 7, 1856. April 27, 1857, a piece was taken off at the north, and Adams, Lodi and Clayton were also cut off. April 6, 1858, the town was given its present name and boundary, but for purposes of local government all of the present Grand Meadow and the north halves of Clayton and Bennington were attached to it. It was on this date that Frankford lost the six sections that are included in its congressional township, but politically belong to Racine. The northern half of Bennington was cut off from Frankford in 1860, the northern half of Clayton in 1873 and Grand Meadow in 1863.

Red Rock. Originally created as an election precinct, July 7, 1856, out of what had previously been Austin. At the time of its creation it consisted of the present towns of Udolpho, Waltham and the north halves of Red Rock and Lansing. The southern part of what is now Red Rock township remained in Austin. April 27, 1857, the present town of Udolpho was cut off, under the name of Madison. By the act of the county commissioners, April 16, 1858, Red Rock assumed its present boundaries, but all of the present town of Dexter, and the southern part of Sargeant, was attached to Red Rock for purposes of township government. According to the records, Dexter was then known as Grand Meadow, and Sargeant as Beaubien. In 1866, when Waltham was organized, it took in the western part of what is now Sargeant, but whether the eastern part remained attached to Red Rock the records do not state. At any rate, Dexter was organized in 1870 and Sargeant in 1873, thus leaving Red Rock with its present boundaries and government.

Le Roy was created as an election precinct July 7, 1856, out of Frankford, with its present boundaries. April 27, 1857, the present towns of Lodi and Adams were added to it, but later in the same day Adams was added to Six Mile Grove, and Clayton was added to Le Roy, thus leaving Le Roy consisting of the pres-

ent towns of Le Roy, Lodi and Clayton. April 16, 1858, the town assumed its present boundaries, but Lodi, and the southern halves of Clayton and Bennington, were attached to it for government purposes. Clayton was then called Providence, and Bennington was then called Andover. Bennington was cut off in 1860, Clayton in 1873 and Lodi in 1874, leaving Le Roy with its present boundaries and government.

Six Mile Grove was created as an election precinct August 16, 1856, out of what had previously been Austin. It consisted of the present towns of Lyle and Nevada. April 27, 1857, the present town of Adams, which up to that day had been included in Frankford, and which a few hours earlier in the day had been added to Le Roy, was added to Six Mile Grove, while the present town of Lyle was cut off and created as Cedar City election precinct. April 16, 1858, Adams and Nevada were each given their present names and boundaries, and Adams was annexed to Nevada for purposes of local government. Nevada was organized in 1858. Adams was cut off and organized 1859.

Madison was created as an election precinct April 16, 1858, and consisted of the present town of Udolpho. It was created out of a part of Red Rock, which precinct had, in turn, been originally a part of the precinct of Austin. April 16, 1858, the name of Madison was changed to Udolpho, and that township assumed its present boundaries. Waltham and the northern part of Beaubien, now Sargeant, were attached to Udolpho for purposes of local government. The present boundaries and government have remained unchanged since 1866, when Waltham was organized.

Cedar City was created as an election precinct April 27, 1857, and comprised the present township of Lyle. Lyle was organized with its present boundaries April 16, 1858.

Hamilton was created as an election precinct April 27, 1857, and occupied an irregular piece taken from what was then the precincts of High Forest and Frankford, and consisting of portions of what are now the towns of Pleasant Valley, Racine, Grand Meadow and Frankford. The name Hamilton was given to the present town of Racine April 16, 1858, but on May 11 of that year the people changed it to Racine. May 22, 1857, the tier of six sections to the north were cut off and added to Olmsted county, and on April 16, 1858, the six tiers to the south were added to Hamilton, now Racine.

TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES.

On April 16, 1858, the state constitution having been adopted, the county commissioners met for the purpose of dividing the

county into townships. On May 22, 1857, sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, in township 104, ranges 14 and 15, had been cut off and added to Olmsted county. With this exception Mower county was and is a parallelogram, thirty miles by twenty-four miles, comprising congressional townships 101, 102, 103 and 104, ranges 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. With the exception of the tier of six sections in the northern part of township 103, range 14, which was attached to the township north, the townships which were created to the number of twenty followed the congressional division, as follows: Township 101, range 14, Le Roy; 15, Lodi; 16, Adams; 17, Nevada; 18, Lyle. Township 102, range 14, Andover; 15, Providence; 16, York; 17, Brooklyn; 18, Austin. Township 103, range 14, Frankford; 15, Poplar Grove; 16, Grand Meadow; 17, Red Rock; 18, Lansing. Township 104, range 14, Hamilton, West; 15, Farmington; 16, Beaubien; 17, Waltham; 18, Udolpho. It will thus be seen that the name Grand Meadow was given to what is now Dexter, while the present Grand Meadow was then called Poplar Grove. Lansing, Austin and Lyle were ordered to have separate and distinct organizations for township purposes. The others were grouped in various ways.

Udolpho was organized at once. To it were added Waltham and the northern part of Beaubien, now Sargeant. Waltham, then consisting of the present town of Waltham and the western half of the present town of Sargeant, was cut off and organized in 1866.

Waltham was organized in 1866 and consisted of the present town of Waltham and the western part of what is now Sargeant. Sargeant was cut off and organized in 1874.

Sargeant, which was originally known as Beaubien and then as Stanton, after being attached in part successively to Udolpho, Waltham and Red Rock, was organized in 1873.

Pleasant Valley, called by the county commissioners Farmington, was ordered to be attached to Hamilton, now Racine, for government purposes, but the records show that it was duly separately organized May 11, 1858.

Racine, called by the county commissioners Hamilton, or more formally Hamilton West, was ordered to have Farmington, now Pleasant Valley, attached to it, but, as in the case of Pleasant Valley, the town was organized separately and distinctly and with its present boundaries May 11, 1858.

Lansing was organized as at present May 11, 1858.

Red Rock was organized in 1858, and Grand Meadow, now Dexter, and the southern half of Beaubien, now Sargeant, were attached to it for township purposes. What was then Grand Meadow was organized in 1870 and is now Dexter. What was then Beaubien was organized in 1873 and is now Sargeant.

Dexter, originally called Grand Meadow, and for some years attached to Red Rock, was organized in 1870.

Grand Meadow, formerly called Poplar Grove, and originally attached to Frankford, was organized in 1862.

Frankford, from whose congressional township, the northern tier of sections is detached, was organized in 1858 and to it were attached Poplar Grove, now Grand Meadow, and the northern halves of Providence and Andover, now Clayton and Bennington. Grand Meadow, formerly Poplar Grove, was organized in 1862; Clayton, formerly Providence, in 1873, and Bennington, formerly Andover, in 1860.

Austin was organized in 1858 as at present.

Windom included the towns of Brooklyn and York and was organized in 1858. Brooklyn became Canton, then Windom. York was cut off in 1870.

Marshall, originally York and later Beach, was organized in 1870, having previously been attached to what is now Windom.

Clayton, originally called Providence, the northern half of which was originally attached to Frankford and the southern half to Le Roy, was organized in 1873.

Bennington, formerly called Andover, the northern part of which was originally annexed to Frankford and the southern half to Le Roy, was organized in 1860.

Lyle was organized in 1858, as at present.

Nevada, to which was originally attached Adams, was organized in 1858. Adams was organized in 1859.

Adams, originally a park attached to Nevada, was organized in 1859.

Lodi, originally attached to Le Roy, was organized in February, 1874. For a time the town was known as Belleview.

Le Roy was organized in 1858, and to it were attached the southern halves of Providence and Andover, now Clayton and Bennington, and all of Lodi. Lodi was cut off in 1874; Clayton in 1873 and Bennington in 1860.

CHAPTER VIII.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

**Doings of the Consecutive Boards of County Commissioners—
County Officials—Registers of Deeds—Treasurers—Auditors
—Sheriffs—County Attorneys—Clerks of the District Court
—Judges of Probate—Superintendents of Schools—County
Buildings—Location of County Seat—County Court House—
County Jail—County Poor Farm.**

The first meeting of the board of county commissioners appointed by Governor Gorman, was held in the village of Frankford, April 7, 1856, Frankford having been established as the temporary county seat. The county commissioners present were Phillip Howell and George White. The first business to come before the board was the appointment of the first county officers, which resulted in the selection of the following named: Timothy M. Chapman, register of deeds and clerk of the board of county commissioners; C. J. Felch, judge of probate; Lewis Patchin, county treasurer; M. K. Armstrong, county surveyor; G. W. Sherman, sheriff and collector of taxes.

The precincts created were named High Forest, Frankford and Austin. High Forest embraced ranges 14, 15 and 16, of township 104. Frankford comprised townships 101, 102 and 103, ranges 14, 15 and 16. Austin embraced townships 101, 102, 103 and 104, ranges 17 and 18. In High Forest precinct Thomas Armstrong was appointed justice of the peace; Orson Lyon, constable; John Robinson, assessor, and J. S. Stimson, Nathan Lyon and Geo. I. Covill, judges of election. In the Frankford precinct David D. Frazier was appointed Justice of the Peace; John Farquer, constable; George Hunt, assessor; D. D. Frazier, G. W. Sherman and Griffin Frazier, judges of election. In Austin precinct, Silas Dutcher was appointed justice of the peace; L. Wations, constable; Orlando Wilder, assessor; J. H. Burns, A. B. Vaughan and V. P. Lewis, judges of election.

May 30, 1856, the second meeting of the board of commissioners was held. This meeting was attended by the full board—Philip Howell, chairman; George White and William Russell. It was found that certain officers appointed at the previous meeting had failed to qualify, and in consequence of this Sylvester Smith was appointed justice of the peace in the Austin precinct; Washington Mason, assessor, and Charles Ferris, constable. July 7, 1856, the commissioners again met, with Phillip Howell chairman, George White and William Russell, present. At this time a peti-

tion was presented from W. B. Spencer and others, asking that a new election precinct be created under the name of LeRoy, to comprise township 101, range 14. The petition was granted and the following officers were appointed for the new precinct: Samuel P. Bacon, justice of the peace; William B. Spencer, constable, and Henry Edmunds, S. P. Bacon and W. B. Spencer, judges of election. At the same session the precinct of Red Rock was created in response to a petition from John L. Johnson and others. It then embraced the north half of township 103, and the whole of township 104, ranges 17 and 18. The following officers were appointed: Moses Mapes, Andrew Brown and Charles F. Hardy, judges of election, and Charles F. Hardy, justice of the peace, and Hilliard Tilton, constable. Opposite this entry, regarding the creation of Red Rock, on the record, is written the word "error"; but as nothing is found in the record to contradict the entry, it is here presented. Several school districts were created at this time, and the first bills against Mower county were allowed. The first bill was that of Lewis Patchin for \$19 for services as road commissioner. From a report made to the board it is learned that in 1856 the taxable real and personal property in the county was as follows: Frankford district—personal property, \$24,473; real property, \$233,855. High Forest district—personalty, \$17,257; realty, \$77,743. Austin precinct—personalty, \$12,132; realty, \$92,072. Total in county, \$457,533. The amount of tax levied by the commissioners was \$2,287.60. The amount of orders issued to defray the expenses of the county was \$1,753.

The first general election was held October 14, 1856, at which 374 votes were cast, and the following officers elected: J. M. Berry, representative; R. L. Kimball, register of deeds; J. B. Yates, sheriff; S. P. Bacon, treasurer; M. K. Armstrong, county surveyor; A. B. Vaughan, judge of probate; Dr. O. Allen, coroner; W. B. Spencer, George H. Bemis and H. C. Blodgett, commissioners.

The first meeting of the new board was held on January 6, 1857, at the village of Frankford, when George H. Bemis was chosen chairman. After organizing, the board adjourned until the following day, when they again met. At this session the county seat question came up, and a resolution was offered by H. B. Blodgett and adopted by the board, locating the county seat on section 3, in Austin village. In March, 1857, the county commissioners engaged the office of A. S. Everest, in Austin, to be used as an office for the register of deeds, and a place of meeting for the board. At the same meeting Ormanzo Allen was appointed the first county attorney for Mower county. In the meantime additional election precincts had been created under the names of Six Mile Grove, Brownsdale, Madison, Cedar City and

Hamilton. July 6, 1857, the county seat question again occupied the attention of the board, and a resolution was passed locating the county seat in block 23, in Davidson's addition to Austin. The total valuation of real and personal property is stated as being \$1,108,304.

The board of county commissioners for 1858 consisted of George H. Bemis, W. B. Spencer and C. F. Hardy. Mr. Bemis was again elected chairman. On January 5, 1858, the resignation of M. K. Armstrong as county surveyor, was tendered the board. April 16, 1858, the commissioners organized twenty townships, but attached a number of them to neighboring ones for the purpose of township government.

SUPERVISOR SYSTEM.

In 1858 there began in Minnesota a system of county government still in vogue in Wisconsin and other states. Under this system, the county was governed by a board of supervisors, consisting of the chairman of the board of supervisors of each township.

In all of the counties then organized in the state, this board of supervisors, or "Court," as it was commonly called, met in the summer of 1858, and it is supposed that such a meeting was held in Austin, but no record has been preserved. The same system was in operation in 1860, but these records are likewise lost in Mower county. The minutes of these two boards, that of the latter half year of 1858 and that of the year 1859, were doubtless kept in a separate book, and then mislaid. The present commissioner system came into being in 1860, and the county commissioners of Mower county, three in number, met in January of that year. Should the old record of the year and a half when Mower county was under the commission system ever be brought to light, it will be of untold historical value.

COMMISSION SYSTEM.

In 1860 the board consisted of Ormanzo Allen (chairman), C. F. Hardy and S. P. Bacon. In September, 1860, D. B. Johnson, Jr., resigned the office of county auditor. Ormanzo Allen resigned as chairman of the board, and was appointed auditor. S. P. Bacon was elected chairman of the board. J. Stewart was elected commissioner to fill vacancy.

On New Year's day, 1861, the board of county commissioners,

for the ensuing year met and qualified. The members were Milo Frary, Samuel Loomis and J. Stewart. The board organized by the election of Milo Frary, chairman.

On January 7, 1862, the commissioners convened for the sixth annual session. At this time the board consisted of G. T. Angell, R. C. Heath and G. H. Bemis. The last named was elected chairman. In February, 1862, the name of Brooklyn township was changed to Canton. At the same time a petition was presented from the legal voters of township 103, range 15, asking that the territory be organized as Grand Meadow township. The petition was granted. On August 13, 1862, a special meeting of the board was held, at which it was "resolved, that \$50.00 be paid to each and every volunteer who should, before August 20, 1862, enlist in the sixth, seventh or eighth Minnesota Regiments and be credited to Mower county." Later the time was extended to October 1, 1862. In September the following school examiners were appointed by the board: H. I. Parker, for the first commissioner district; Richard Hoppin, for the second, and A. J. Harris, for the third.

The seventh annual session of the board began on January 6, 1863. The board was composed of R. C. Heath, G. T. Angell and Alanson Beach, the latter being the newly elected member. Mr. Beach was elected chairman for the ensuing year. The second day of the session the board divided the county into military districts as follows: First, to be composed of the townships of Adams and Nevada; second, Lyle, Windom and Austin; third, Lansing; fourth, Red Rock and Udolpho; fifth, Pleasant Valley and Grand Meadow; sixth, Racine; seventh, Frankford and Bennington; eighth, LeRoy. Bennington township was ordered organized at the same time. In September, 1863, the commissioners appointed the following school examiners: J. B. Tallman, C. F. Hardy and Sackett Sears.

On January 5, 1864, the board convened for the eighth annual session. Charles N. Stimson had been elected to succeed R. C. Heath, so the commissioners for the ensuing year were Alanson Beach, W. B. Spencer and C. N. Stimson. Alanson Beach was elected chairman for the ensuing year. J. B. Tallman was appointed superintendent of common schools of Mower county, at an annual salary of \$100; to hold his office one year from September 1, 1864. On May 2, 1864, the board of commissioners voted "to allow each volunteer soldier who had gone into the service of the United States and been accredited to Mower county, the sum of \$100; and for each veteran soldier who has gone or may go, \$100 more; provided that no bounty shall be issued to deserters; that the amounts already drawn as bounty be deducted from the \$100; provided further, that no soldier who has been discharged

from service shall receive a bounty, unless he has been permanently disabled while in service." "Provided further, that where towns have, during the last year, paid a bounty of \$100 to soldiers, the bounty from Mower county shall be paid to the towns instead of the soldiers; or if the said towns have paid soldiers any fraction of the \$100, then the town shall receive the fraction and the soldiers the balance."

January 3, 1865, the board convened pursuant to law for its ninth annual session. W. E. Harris had been elected commissioner to succeed W. B. Spencer, so that the board for the ensuing year was composed of Alanson Beach, C. N. Stimson and W. E. Harris. No record is found of the election of a chairman. In September, 1865, Ormanzo Allen tendered his resignation as county auditor, which was accepted, and H. M. Allen was appointed to fill the vacancy. At about the same time Charles N. Stimson, one of the commissioners, sent in his resignation, and the judge of probate, register of deeds and county auditor appointed C. F. Hardy, of Red Rock township, to fill the vacancy. J. B. Tallman was appointed county superintendent of schools, for one year, commencing January 1, 1866. His salary was fixed at \$300 per year. C. J. Short, the county attorney, was allowed an annual salary of \$100.

At the annual meeting which commenced January 2, 1866, there were present Alanson Beach, C. F. Hardy and William E. Harris. Messrs. Beach and Hardy were the newly elected members. Alanson Beach was chosen chairman for the ensuing year. The first business to come before the board was the offering of a reward for the apprehension of Patrick McEntee, who, December 18, 1865, had murdered I. W. Padden. A reward of \$400 was offered. At this session the board voted to allow A. B. Morse, Charles E. White and Thomas Talbot the sum of \$50 each as soldiers' bounty, their names not appearing upon the adjutant general's list of credits. At the same time township 104, range 17, and the west half of township 104, range 16, was set off as Waltham township, and civil organization was authorized. On September 5, 1866, Sherman Page, of Austin, was appointed Superintendent of schools. His salary was fixed at \$400 per annum.

On January 11, 1867, the board of county commissioners met in annual session pursuant to law, at the auditor's office in Austin. E. J. Stimson, the commissioner-elect succeeding C. F. Hardy, qualified, and took his seat. The board for the year consisted of Alanson Beach, William E. Harris and E. J. Stimson. Alanson Beach was elected chairman for the ensuing year. In September, Sherman Page was re-appointed superintendent of schools. His salary was fixed at the same amount as in the preceding year.

January 7, 1868, the board met for their twelfth annual ses-

sion. At this time the members were Alanson Beach, E. J. Stimson and Joseph McKnight. The last named was the member-elect succeeding William E. Harris. Mr. Stimson was elected chairman, but in April resigned and A. Beach was elected. At this session the board divided the county into five commissioner districts in place of the former three, it being found that there were a sufficient number of votes to entitle a representation on the county board of two additional members. The districts as then set off comprised territory as follows: District No. 1, embraced Udolpho, Red Rock, Waltham and Pleasant Valley townships, E. J. Stimson. District No. 2, embraced Racine, Frankford and Grand Meadow townships, D. P. Putney. District No. 3, was composed of Adams, LeRoy and Bennington townships, J. H. McKnight. District No. 4, embraced Lyle, Nevada and Windom townships, Alanson Beach. District No. 5, embraced Austin and Lansing townships, George W. Bishop. At the same session the board directed the sheriff to offer a reward of \$500 each for the apprehension of Oliver Potter and William Kemp, two of the supposed murderers of Chauncey Knapp. At the March session, 1868, D. P. Putney and George W. Bishop, members-elect from the newly created districts, appeared and qualified. At the same meeting a committee, consisting of J. McKnight and G. W. Bishop, was appointed to examine farms that had been offered the county as a poor farm. This matter culminated on March 14, when it was voted to accept Mr. Caswell's proposition to sell his farm in LeRoy township to the county for a poor farm, and also to buy eighty acres of W. Hayes, adjoining the Caswell farm, at \$23 per acre. On April 9, it was resolved "that the register of deeds be instructed to take the necessary steps to transfer all records of deeds and mortgages (not satisfied) now recorded in Houston county, Minnesota, on lands lying in Mower county, to the records of this county." At this meeting bids were received for the erection of a new county building, and that of D. J. Tubbs being the lowest, the contract was awarded to him in the sum of \$6,450. A building committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Beach, Stimson and Bishop. The building was to be completed September 5, 1868. On September 11, the commissioners passed a resolution, declaring that they had the greatest confidence in the integrity and efficiency of the county officials. In October, Sheldon T. Otis was appointed county superintendent of schools for the ensuing year.

On January 5, 1869, the board met in annual session. Alanson Beach, D. P. Putney and George W. Bishop, commissioners-elect, qualified. The members holding over were Joseph McKnight and E. J. Stimson. Alanson Beach was chosen chairman for the ensuing year. On March 13, 1869, Sylvester Smith resigned the office

of county treasurer, and Solomon Snow, the treasurer-elect, was appointed to fill the unexpired term.

On January 4, 1870, the Board convened for their annual session, with Alanson Beach, G. W. Bishop, D. P. Putney and J. McKnight, members holding over, present. John P. Williams, the member-elect from the first district, qualified and took his seat with the board. Alanson Beach was unanimously chosen chairman for the ensuing year. In May, 1870, the township of Dexter was created and ordered organized. It embraced Congressional township 103, range 16. At the same time township 102, range 16, was set off and ordered organized as Beach township. In December, 1870, H. E. Turner presented his credentials as member-elect of the board, and qualified. He succeeded Mr. Williams.

On January 3, 1871, the board met in annual session, pursuant to law. At this time the following named gentlemen were members: Alanson Beach, H. E. Tanner, C. J. Felch, G. W. Bishop and E. F. McKee. Alanson Beach was chosen chairman for the ensuing year. In February, G. W. Bishop resigned, and was succeeded by W. M. Howe. On June 26, 1871, a special meeting of the board was held at which it was decided to bring legal action against Sylvester Smith, former treasurer of the county, for alleged irregularities in connection with the county finances. This was a matter which for a number of years agitated the county. In justice to Mr. Smith, it should be stated in this connection that his honor and integrity came out unscathed from the long and bitter litigation which followed. In September, L. Bourgard presented his resignation as county attorney, and E. O. Wheeler was appointed to fill the vacancy.

On January 2, 1872, the board met in annual session. A. C. Bisbee, commissioner-elect from the fourth district, qualified. The board for the ensuing year was composed of C. J. Felch, W. M. Howe, H. E. Tanner, E. F. McKee and A. C. Bisbee. Organization was effected by the election of C. J. Felch, chairman.

The annual meeting for 1873 commenced on January 7. H. E. Tanner had been re-elected from the first district, so the board remained as before, the members being C. J. Felch, W. M. Howe, A. C. Bisbee, E. F. McKee and H. E. Tanner. C. J. Felch was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

On September 3, 1873, township 104, range 16, formerly known as Beaubien, was set off and ordered organized as the civil township Stanton. Clayton township was created at the same time, comprising township 102, range 15, formerly known as Providence.

On January 6, 1874, the board met again in annual session. C. J. Felch had been re-elected. The members holding over were W.

M. Howe, H. E. Tanner, A. C. Bisbee and James Grant. C. J. Felch was elected chairman for the ensuing year. On March 19, 1874, E. F. Morgan, of LeRoy township, was appointed superintendent of schools for the ensuing year. In July, Lafayette French was appointed county attorney to fill a vacancy. At the same meeting in response to a circular from the governor, the board appropriated \$500 from the county funds, for the relief of grasshopper sufferers.

On January 5, 1875, the board of commissioners met in annual session, with the following as its members: C. J. Felch, H. E. Tanner, James Grant, William Richards and R. J. French. C. J. Felch was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

The board of county commissioners for 1876 was composed of C. J. Felch, William Richards, James Grant, A. J. French and F. W. Kimball. William Richards was elected chairman of the board at the annual meeting January 4, 1876. On June 14, 1876, the following resolution was adopted by the board of county commissioners: Resolved, That the sum of \$100 or so much thereof as may be necessary be set apart for the purpose of collecting and preparing a statistical history of Mower county, in accordance with the proclamation of the president. Messrs. Richards and French were appointed a committee to carry out the intention of the board.

The annual session for 1877 began on January 2. At this time the members were William Richards, A. J. French, F. W. Kimball, G. W. Allen and W. B. Spencer. William Richards was elected chairman for the ensuing year. During the summer 1877, O. C. La Bar succeeded Commissioner Kimball.

For the year 1878, the board consisted of William Richards, G. W. Allen, W. B. Spencer, O. C. La Bar and M. M. Trowbridge. William Richards was elected chairman on January 1, 1878, for the ensuing year.

The annual session of 1879 began January 7, when the board organized, by the election of William Richards, chairman. The board was composed of William Richards, O. C. La Bar, G. W. Allen, W. B. Spencer and M. M. Trowbridge. P. T. McIntyre, in August, 1879, was appointed county treasurer to succeed I. Ingmundson, deceased.

On January 6, 1880, the board met in regular session, with the following named as members: William Richards, M. M. Trowbridge, O. C. La Bar, O. W. Case and W. B. Mitson. Mr. Richards was chosen chairman. Mr. Case died in May, 1880, and Charles L. Schrøder, of Racine, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

On January 4, 1881, the board met and organized for the ensuing year, by electing O. C. La Bar, chairman for the ensuing

year. The members of the board of commissioners at this time were: O. C. La Bar, W. B. Mitson, R. A. Donaldson, O. Ayers and Hans C. Anderson.

The board for 1882 was composed of W. B. Mitson, H. C. Anderson, Oscar Ayers, J. B. Graves and R. A. Donaldson. W. B. Mitson was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

At the annual session which began January 2, 1883, the following were the members: Oscar Ayers, H. C. Anderson, J. B. Graves, C. L. Schröder and John Gilligan. Oscar Ayers was chosen chairman for the ensuing year.

On New Year's day, 1884, the board convened for their annual session. Oscar Ayers was elected chairman for the ensuing year. The members were: Oscar Ayers, H. C. Anderson, J. B. Graves, C. L. Schröder and John Gilligan.

In January, 1885, the board consisting of H. C. Anderson, J. B. Graves, C. L. Schröder, John Gilligan and Oscar Ayres, met and named the latter as chairman.

Since 1885, the commissioners have been elected as follows: 1886—F. Christgau, C. H. Lockwood, W. W. Sweet, John Beach, E. C. Dorr. 1888—W. T. Johnson, C. H. Lockwood, W. W. Sweet, John Beach, A. E. Christie. 1890—N. T. Johnson, William Brown, W. W. Sweet, John Beach, A. E. Christie. 1892—M. Stephenson, William Brown, W. W. Sweet, John Beach, J. W. C. Dinsmoor. 1894—M. Stephenson, William Brown, W. W. Sweet, K. Amundson, J. W. C. Dinsmoor. 1896—M. Stephenson, William Brown, Frank E. Hambrecht, K. Amundson, J. W. C. Dinsmoor. 1898—M. Stephenson, William Brown, Frank E. Hambrecht, K. Amundson, J. W. C. Dinsmoor. 1900—M. Stephenson, William Brown, Frank E. Hambrecht, K. Amundson, Joseph Keenan. 1902—M. Stephenson, W. P. Lewis, Frank E. Hambrecht, P. O'Malley, Joseph Keenan. 1904—D. L. Tanner, W. P. Lewis, Frank E. Hambrecht, John R. Johnson, William Christie. 1906—D. L. Tanner, W. H. Goodsell, Frank E. Hambrecht, John R. Johnson, William Christie. 1908—Charles L. Schwartz, W. H. Goodsell, Frank E. Hambrecht, John R. Johnson, William Christie. 1910—Charles L. Schwartz, W. H. Goodsell, Frank E. Hambrecht, John R. Johnson, William Christie.

The county commissioners' districts are at present divided as follows: 1, Dexter, Sargeant, Waltham, Udolpho and Red Rock; 2, Frankford, Racine, Pleasant Valley and Grand Meadow; 3, LeRoy, Bennington, Lodi and Adams; 4, Marshall, Windom, Nevada and Lyle; 5, Austin and Lansing.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Following is a list of the elective officers of Mower county, since its organization in 1856:

Auditor—The office of county auditor was created to take effect in 1859. The business now performed by him, had been performed prior to that date by the register of deeds and clerk. The auditors have been as follows: D. B. Johnson, Jr., 1859-1860; Ormanzo Allen, 1860-1865; H. M. Allen, 1865-1871, Henry M. Shook, to fill vacancy; J. P. Williams, 1871-1875; P. T. McIntyre, 1875-1879; J. M. Wyckoff, 1878-1880; H. W. Elms, 1880-1887; C. H. Wilbour, 1887-1893; R. L. Johnson, 1893-1903; George Robertson, 1903-1913. The deputy at the present time is C. H. Wilbour.

Treasurer—Lewis Patchin, 1856-1857 (appointed); S. P. Bacon, 1857-1858; A. S. Everest, 1858-1860; T. J. Lake, 1860-1862; Sylvester Smith, 1862-1869; Solomon Snow, 1869-1870; J. S. Irgens, 1870-1874; I. Ingmundson, 1874-1879; P. T. McIntyre, 1879-1881; G. L. Case, 1881-1887; A. Requa, 1887-1893; G. Seebach, 1893-1903; S. A. Smith, 1903-1913.

Register of Deeds—Timothy M. Chapman, 1856-1857 (appointed); R. L. Kimball, 1857-1858; David Blakely, 1859-1861; Solomon Snow, 1861-1869; R. L. Hathaway, 1869-1871; George W. Robinson, 1871-1875; William M. Howe, 1875-1882; M. M. Trowbridge, 1882-1887; Eugene Wood, 1887-1913.

Sheriff—G. W. Sherman, 1856-1857; J. B. Yates, 1857-1859; George W. Bishop, 1859-1861; E. D. Fenton, 1861-1865; W. F. Grummons, 1865-1867; D. J. Tubbs, 1867-1869; Allan Mollison, 1869-1873; George Baird, 1873-1875; R. O. Hall, 1875-1878; H. B. Corey, 1878-1885; Allan Mollison, 1885-1895; John C. Johnson, Jr., 1895-1905; Nicholas Nicholsen, 1905-1913.

Attorney—Ormanzo Allen, 1857-1859; D. B. Johnson, Jr., 1859-1860; C. J. Shortt, 1860-1864; H. R. Davidson, 1864; D. B. Johnson, 1864-1865; C. J. Shortt, 1865-1867; E. O. Wheeler, 1867-1869; C. J. Shortt, 1869-1871; L. Bourgard, 1871-1874; Lafayette French, 1874-1878; C. C. Kinsman, 1878-1880; George F. Goodwin, 1880-1882; John M. Greeman, 1882-1887; L. F. Clausen, 1887-1889; D. B. Johnson, Jr., 1889-1893; S. D. Catherwood, 1893-1899; R. E. Shepherd, 1899-1903; A. W. Wright, 1903-1911; Otto Baudler, 1911-1913.

Probate Judge—C. J. Felch, 1856-1857 (appointed); A. B. Vaughn, 1857-1859; G. M. Cameron, 1859-1861; Robert Lyle, 1861-1866; Ormanzo Allen, 1866-1869; C. F. Hardy, 1869-1870; E. O. Wheeler, 1870-1871; Jesse Rose, 1871-1874; W. H. Crandall, 1874-1875; S. Harter, 1875-1876; G. M. Cameron, 1876-1879; John O. Farmer, 1879-1880; Ormanzo Allen, 1880-1887; W. W. Ranney,

1887-1891; S. S. Washburn, 1891-1903; John M. Greenman, 1903-1911; Henry Weber, Jr., 1911-1913.

County Surveyor—G. H. Allen, 1885-1893; M. N. Clausen, 1893-1897; G. H. Allen, 1897-1901; M. N. Clausen, 1901-1903; V. A. Nason, 1903-1907; M. N. Clausen, 1907-1909; V. A. Nason, 1909-1913.

Coroner—J. P. Squires, 1885-1889; A. W. Allen, 1889-1893; W. L. Hollister, 1893-1905; W. N. Kendrick, 1905-1907; Charles S. Lewis, 1907-1911; A. E. Henslin, 1911-1913.

Clerk of the District Court—V. P. Lewis (by appointment), 1855-1858; J. E. Willard, 1858-1861; L. A. Sherwood, 1861-1870; J. F. Atherton, 1870-1874; F. A. Elder, 1874-1877; S. Sweningson, 1877-1895; O. J. Simmons, 1895-1907; George S. Burnham, 1907-1913.

Court Commissioners—Ormanzo Allen, 1885-1887; W. V. Ranney, 1887-1891; S. S. Washburn, 1891-1899; A. C. Page, 1899-1913.

School Superintendent—J. B. Tollman, 1864-1867; Sherman Page, 1867-1869; O. T. Otis, 1869-1870; A. S. Pike, 1870; J. T. Williams, 1870-1872; A. A. Harwood, 1872-1874; E. F. Morgan, 1874-1875; N. M. Holbrook, 1875-1877; A. H. Tuttle, 1877-1881; C. D. Belden, 1881-1891; Gertrude C. Ellis, 1891-1901; Fannie G. Gies, 1901-1909; Grace B. Sherwood, 1909-1913.

LOCATING THE COUNTY SEAT.

The location of the county seat was the first official question of importance that occupied the attention of the people of the newly organized county. The first board of county commissioners, who were appointed by Governor Gorman in 1856, were George White, Phillip Howell and William Russell. On April 7, 1856, these temporary commissioners met in the village of Frankford and appointed the various county officers. It was also their business, under authority of the legislature, to locate a county seat and the record of such an act should have been made in the county commissioners book of record; but no such record was then made, but some time later the following record appeared on the fly leaf of Book "A" of deeds and marked "page 1." This is the only record of the location of the county seat of Frankford:

"According to an act of the Minnesota Legislature, approved March 1, 1856, George White, Phillip Howell, and William Russell, were appointed commissioners to locate the seat of Mower county. Said commissioners met April 7, 1856, and located the county seat of Mower county at the following place, to-wit: In the village of Frankford, situate on the southwest quarter, of the southeast quarter, and the southeast quarter of the southwest

quarter, of section 13, township 103, range 14, west of the fifth principal meridian. Witness our hands this 7th day of April, 1856. Phillip Howell, William Russell, George White, commissioners. Attest: Timothy N. Chapman, clerk of the board of county commissioners."

Mower county at that time was entitled to one representative in the legislature, and his election took place in October, 1855, the first election held within the county. The polls at High Forest were located under an oak tree, a board with the ends placed on two barrel heads served as a judge's desk. The east side nominated W. B. Covell, a Democrat, and the west side A. B. Vaughan, a Republican. Ninety-seven votes were polled; Vaughan received the majority, and received his certificate of election from the judges, and applied at the house for his seat. In the meantime Covell had made the returns of the election to the register of deeds, in Houston, and from him received his certificate of election, proceeded to the house, and was duly qualified as the first member of the legislature from Mower county.

The first general election held in the county occurred October 14, 1856. Two local tickets, without regard to politics, were put in nomination. On the west side, the People's ticket, with J. M. Berry, for representative; R. L. Kimball, for register of deeds; J. B. Yates, sheriff; S. P. Bacon, treasurer; N. P. Todd, surveyor; W. B. Spencer, of LeRoy, G. H. Bemis and H. C. Blodgett, as commissioners; A. B. Vaughan, judge of probate, and Dr. O. Allen, for coroner.

On the east side the Union ticket placed in the field, T. H. Armstrong, for representative; W. B. Covell, register of deeds; J. S. Pierson, sheriff; G. P. Covell, treasurer; M. K. Armstrong, surveyor; William Spencer, of LeRoy, C. F. Hardy and N. Goodsell, as county commissioners; C. J. Felch, as judge of probate, and J. Pierce, as coroner.

The "People's ticket" was elected with a majority of 46 votes out of 374 polled, with the exception of Mr. Todd, who was defeated by 74 votes. Heretofore the east side had had all except three minor offices, but in this election the west side gained the power.

The first question of any importance which came before the newly elected county commissioners was that of establishing a permanent county seat.

The people of the west side of the county argued that it would be easier to locate the county seat at Austin, than it would be to go to Frankford to transact the county business.

When it was established at Frankford by the first (temporary) county commissioners, it was by them declared that it could not be removed except by a vote of the people of the county. Two of

the newly elected commissioners, George H. Bemis and H. C. Blodgett favored its removal, and took it upon themselves to remove it to Austin, having passed the following resolution at the meeting of January 7, 1857. "That, whereas, the act of the territorial legislature of Minnesota, of A. D. 1856, made it the duty of the commissioners appointed under the provisions of said act to locate the county seat of the county of Mower, and, whereas, it does not appear upon the records of the doings of said commissioners on the first Monday in January, A. D. 1857, that any such location was made, or any place provided for the transaction of the county business according to law; therefore, resolved, that we do hereby locate the county seat of said Mower county at the village of Austin, on section 3, in township 102, range 18 west, until otherwise provided by law. This entry is signed by George H. Bemis, chairman of the board, and Joseph Badger, deputy register.

As the county had erected no building, the records and little tin box which contained them, constituted the county seat, and wherever these were there it was also.

About noon Sheriff Yates and Vaughan, with the little tin box on which rested the future of both Frankford and Austin, in their sleigh started for Austin. That night they stopped at the Tattersoll House, in High Forest. The landlord took the tin box and hid it away, with instructions to deliver to no one but Yates and Vaughan. In a short time Sheriff Sherman (Yates had not yet duly qualified) with a posse of men from Frankford, arrived and arrested Yates, Vaughan, Bemis and Tattersoll (who was the landlord), for grand larceny. He then posted guards around the hotel and went to obtain a search warrant, as the landlord would not give up the tin box containing the records. While he was gone, Yates made a bargain with W. Sykes, by which Sykes was to receive \$20, if he would obtain the box and deliver it to Yates, in case they succeeded in removing the county seat, if not he was to have \$5.00 which was paid down. At a signal from Yates (he was to pass out of the door) the man was to take it out and hide it. The evening being quite cold, Yates soon induced the guards to come in and take a drink, and they became quite convivial, and supposed as long as they watched the persons under arrest that their duty would be performed, and that the box would be safe. Soon Yates passed out of the front door (the signal agreed upon) and down into the timber a short distance. Three of the guards, who saw him go out, followed him, but he eluded them by taking advantage of a short turn in the road, and jumped into the brush, while the three guards passed directly on. In the meantime Sykes had co-operated with Yates in carrying out the plans already laid, and was seen by Yates in the act of hiding the box. Yates then took the box and after Sykes had gone to the house took the box

some distance and hid it beneath the mantles of snow which then covered the earth to quite a depth, and covered it with rails; it remained there for three or four days. After hiding the box, Yates went about a half mile and stopped a few hours at the house of Mr. Pierce, and then returned to the hotel. He afterward drew a diagram of the grounds where the box had been hidden, and gave it to John Patterson and C. C. Hanchett, who dug it up from beneath the snow and conveyed it to Austin, where it was secreted in the hardware store of R. L. Kimball. The officers procured a search warrant, which only allowed them to search within the store proper, and not in the upper story, which was used by Mr. Kimball as a residence. While search was being made about the store room, it is said that some one carried the tin box under cover of a shawl to the cellar and there stowed it away within a pile of potatoes. Thus it will be seen the search was made in vain. George Bemis had the book containing the proceedings of the county commissioners under his coat the night they all remained at Tattersoll's House, and the following morning he and Yates walked about eighty rods from the hotel and there deposited it under the snow, at the foot of an oak tree, disguising the marks they had necessarily made in the snow, by a certain method which their quick wit suggested.

The book remained there a short time, and was then taken back to Frankford and carried by Mr. Bemis throughout the trial, closely guarded beneath his coat and vest.

Armstrong, Morse, Willis and Belden appeared in the trial for the prosecution, and Jones Ripley and Gordon E. Cole for the defense. The citizens from the west part of the county having heard of the arrests which had been made, proceeded at once to Frankford, to liberate the prisoners, all going well armed as it was feared by some that something serious might transpire. But all soon passed off without the shedding of blood, and with the exception of a false alarm that caused no little consternation among about fifteen men, who were sleeping in Levi Patchin's old log tavern, the examination proceeded without further trouble. Yates and Bemis were each bound over for the sum of \$3,000, to appear at the next term of the Filmore county seat.

Before the session of the court convened the matter had been settled.

In March, 1857, the county board engaged the office of A. S. Everest, in Austin, to be used as the county seat headquarters. June 1, 1857, the people of the county voted on the county seat question, and decided in favor of Austin, consequently the county seat controversy, both among the people and in the courts was dropped. At this election, the people of the eastern part of the county voted not for Frankford, but for Brownsdale. But High

Forest with its voters was cut off from Mower county just in time to give Austin the balance of power.

July 6, 1857, the board passed the following resolution:—

“Pursuant to an act during the eighth session of the legislative assembly of the territory of Minnesota, convened on the 7th day of January, and adjourned on the 7th of March, 1857, granting the legal voters of the county of Mower, the privilege of permanently establishing the county seat of said county, by an election to be held for that purpose on June 1, 1857; and, whereas, it appearing by a canvass of the votes cast at said election, that a majority of the votes were cast for the location of the county seat on Davidson's addition to Austin. Resolved, That we, the commissioners of said county of Mower, at this our regular session, July 6, 1857, in accordance with the wishes of a majority of the legal voters of said county, as expressed by the election, do hereby locate the county seat of Mower county on block 23, in Davidson's addition to Austin, as said addition appears on record in the office of the Register of Deeds of Mower county.”

COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

In March, 1857, the county board of commissioners engaged the office of A. S. Everest, in Austin, to be used as county seat headquarters. The register of deeds officed there and this was the place for holding the meetings of the board of commissioners. This and other small office rooms served for county seat buildings until the fall of 1868, when a court house was completed, through an act of the board of commissioners of April 9, 1868. At this meeting bids were received for the erection of a county building, and D. J. Tubbs being the lowest bidder, the contract was awarded to him in the sum of \$6,450. A building committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Beech, Stimson and Bishop. The building was to be completed by September 5, 1868. This was a two-story brick structure and was located on the corner of Main and Maple streets, opposite the present court house. This building served the county well until 1881, when it was the will of the people that a new, larger and better court house be provided the rapidly progressing county. In accordance with this manifest wish, the board of county commissioners commenced laying plans to erect more spacious quarters. At a meeting of the board of commissioners, held March 29, 1881, block 13, the old public square, owned by various parties, was purchased for the total sum of \$1,925. A building committee was then appointed, which consisted of Oscar Ayers, O. C. LaBar and W. B. Mitson. Bids were solicited for constructing the basement of the contemplated court house.



MOWER COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

D. J. Tubbs, whose bid of \$9,200.00 was the lowest offered, was awarded the contract and completed the work in a very satisfactory manner. H. J. Anderson was appointed as superintendent of construction, and received for his services \$30 per week.

The building committee took much pains to become thoroughly conversant with the various kinds of architecture, making trips to Milwaukee, St. Paul, Minneapolis and other points, to view and study into the plans of such building, and finally engaged the services of W. H. Dennis, of Minneapolis, as their architect and designer. June 14, 1882, the contract for erecting the superstructure was awarded to Snow & Allsip, of Chicago. Mr. Snow was the Solomon Snow whose name appears throughout this history, as one of the early residents of Mower county. The amount called for in this contract was \$52,291. The work of construction went on, and the building was completed and first occupied in the month of March, 1884.

About seven years before the completion of the new court house, the board of county commissioners began to stow away a fund for that purpose, by levying a light tax each year, thus the tax payers were not burdened by a heavy tax any one year, or compelled to pay interest on a large bonded indebtedness, as most counties have done, in this and other states. No small credit is due to the enterprise and public spirit of the city of Austin, who taxed herself to the amount of \$6,000 as an aid toward erecting the court house. The total cost of the building, lots, and heating apparatus, was, in round numbers \$67,900, divided about as follows: \$51,500 for building; \$1,925 for grounds; and \$4,500 for furniture and fixtures. After deducting the \$6,000 paid by the city of Austin, the cost to the people of Mower county, was about \$61,916.

The new court house was fittingly dedicated by the formal opening of the first session of court within its walls.

In the early part of 1879, an effort was made to have the county seat removed to Ramsey. The effort was made on the part of the people of Racine, Frankford, Pleasant Valley, Grand Meadow and other towns. A remonstrance was signed by 2,204 legal voters of the county, this being more than two thirds of the total vote cast at the previous general election. The removal bill failed to pass the legislature.

COUNTY POOR FARM.

Prior to 1868 the paupers of Mower county were cared for by some of the citizens, who were paid by the county. At that date a farm was purchased by the county in LeRoy township and fitted up for that purpose. April 16, 1868, the board of county

commissioners, purchased seventy-five acres of land on the northwest quarter of section 28, township 101, range 14, of Daniel Caswell and wife, for the sum of \$1,500; and also eighty acres of W. Hayes for \$1,840. This constituted the first poor farm in the county. Proper improvements were made and the poor were cared for at that place until 1876, when it was deemed best to exchange this property for the present poor farm, which is located on the northeast quarter of section 31, township 103, range 18, which is in the township of Lansing, and is about three miles distant from the city of Austin. This place was bought (or traded for) of John S. Lacy and wife February 11, 1876. This farm is an excellent piece of land and now contains very good improvements, including all necessary buildings.

County Jail. The county jail is a brick structure with stone trimmings. It is fireproof, steam heated and sanitary throughout. The sheriff's residence is a good brick building with stone trimmings. It adjoins the jail and is located a few rods from the courthouse on the east side of Chatham street.

CHAPTER IX.

COUNTY REPRESENTATION.

Mower County in Seventh and Fourth Council Districts—Fillmore and Mower County Made the Eighth Council District—First Representative From This County Takes His Seat—Constitutional Convention—Mower and Dodge Counties Become the Thirteenth Legislative District—Mower and Dodge County Become the Fifteenth District—Mower County Becomes the Fourth District—Changed to the Third District—Later to the Sixth District—Congressional Representation.

On July 7, 1849, Governor Alexander Ramsey, by proclamation, divided the territory into council districts; Mower county, with the rest of southern Minnesota (exclusive of the settlements on the banks of the Mississippi), coming within the limits of the seventh district.

1849—The first territorial legislature met on September 3, and adjourned November 1. The seventh district was represented in the council by Martin McLeod, of Lac qui Parle; and in the house by Alexis Bailly, of Mendota, and Gideon H. Pond, of Oak Grove. Although Mower county was included in the seventh district, no

settlers had at that time located within the present limits of the county.

1851—The second territorial legislature assembled January 1 and adjourned March 31. The seventh district was represented in the council by Martin McLeod, of Lac qui Parle; and in the house by B. H. Randall, of Ft. Snelling, and Alexander Faribault, of Faribault. Mower county was still without settlers. By the apportionment of this legislature, the territory having been divided into counties, the fourth district was made to constitute Wabasha and Washington counties, and the precincts of St. Paul and Little Canada jointly. It was understood that Wabasha county was to be one representative district. The present Mower county was then included in Wabasha county.

1852—The third territorial legislature assembled January 7, and adjourned March 6. The fourth district was represented in the council by Lorenzo A. Babcock, of Sauk Rapids; and in the house by Fordyce H. Richards, of Reed's Landing.

1853—The fourth territorial legislature assembled January 5, and adjourned March 5. At this session the boundary lines of many of the counties were changed, and Mower county was included within the limits of Rice county. The boundaries of the legislative districts, however, remained the same, and the present Mower county remained in the district which comprised the area included in Wabasha county by the act of 1851. At the session of 1853 the fourth district was represented in the council by Lorenzo A. Babcock; and in the house by James ("Bully") Wells, of a settlement at the head of Lake Pepin.

1854—The fifth territorial legislature assembled January 4 and adjourned March 4. The fourth district was represented in the council by William Freeborn, of Red Wing; and in the house by O. M. Lord, of what is now Dodge county.

1855—The sixth territorial legislature assembled January 3 and adjourned March 3. The fourth district was represented in the council by William Freeborn; and in the house by Clark W. Thompson, of the present Houston county. At this session Mower county was created with practically her present boundaries, with the exception of the twelve sections that were annexed to Olmsted county, May 26, 1857. The creation act passed February 20, 1855. At the same session, Houston, Fillmore and Mower county were constituted the eighth district.

1856—The seventh territorial legislature assembled January 2 and adjourned March 1. In the meantime the Republican party had been organized, and a convention met at St. Paul, July 25, 1855. Of sixteen delegates selected from Freeborn and Mower counties, but one was present. The Democratic convention as-

sembled July 25, 1855, and was better represented from this county. A third party had also been organized by delegates seceding from the Democratic convention. Clark W. Thompson, of Houston county, and Benjamin F. Tillotson, of Fillmore county, represented the eighth district in the sixth territorial legislature. The representatives in the house from this district were W. B. Gere, Samuel Hull, William F. Dunbar, William B. Covell and Martin G. Thompson. William B. Covell was a Democrat from the east end of Mower county. At the election of October 9, 1855, there had been two candidates for the legislature in this county, Covell, Democrat, from the east end, and Alanson B. Vaughan, Republican, from the west end. Vaughan was elected by a good majority and obtained a certificate of election from the judges, but upon application to the house for admission, he found that Covell had made returns of election to the register of deeds in Houston, and thus equipped, had been duly admitted to a seat in the house. Thus Vaughan was the first elected representative from Mower county, and Covell the first to hold the seat.

1857—The eighth territorial legislature assembled January 7 and adjourned March 7. Clark W. Thompson and Benjamin F. Tillotson again represented the eighth district in the council. The representatives in the house were William B. Gere, D. F. Chase, W. J. Howell, John M. Berry and M. G. Thompson. Berry was from Mower county. An extra session of this legislature assembled April 27 and adjourned May 23. It was this eighth territorial legislature that on May 26, 1857, set off twelve sections of Mower county and added them to Houston county.

Under the enabling act of congress, approved March 3, 1857, a constitutional convention of 108 members (each council district to elect two delegates for each councilman and representative it was entitled to) was authorized to meet at the capitol on the second Monday in July, to frame a state constitution, and to submit it to the people of the territory. The election was held on the first Monday in June. July 13 the delegates met, but a disagreement arising in the organization, the Republican members organized one body and the Democrats organized separately. Each of these bodies claiming to be the legal constitutional convention, proceeded with the work of forming an instrument to be submitted to the people. After some days an understanding was effected between them, and by means of a committee of conference the same constitution was framed and adopted by both bodies. On being submitted to the people, October 13, it was ratified.

In the Republican wing, the eighth district was represented by Alanson B. Vaughan, C. W. Thompson, John A. Anderson, Charles A. Coe, N. P. Colburn, J. A. McCann, H. A. Billings,

Charles Hanson, H. W. Holley, John Cleghorn, A. H. Butler, Robert Lyle and Boyd Phelps. In the Democratic wing, the eighth district had but one representative, James C. Day.

By the apportionment of 1857, set forth in the state constitution adopted October 13, Mower and Dodge counties were constituted the thirteenth district, with two representatives in the senate and three in the house.

1857-58—The first state legislature assembled December 2, 1857. On March 25, 1858, it took a recess until June 2, and finally adjourned August 12. The thirteenth district was represented in the senate by Edward W. Somers and Boyd Phelps. For some reason the records show only one member, George O. Way, in the house from this district, though the district was entitled to three representatives.

1859-60—The second state legislature assembled December 7, 1859, and adjourned March 12, 1860. Henry C. Rogers and A. J. Edgerton represented the thirteenth district in the senate, and T. F. Hunt, Peter Mantor and B. F. Langworthy in the house. This legislature reapportioned the legislative districts, and Mower and Dodge counties became the fifteenth.

1861—The third state legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned March 8. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by J. W. Flake; and in the house by Peter Mantor and Thomas J. Hunt.

1862—The fourth state legislature assembled January 7 and adjourned March 7. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Joseph H. Clark, and in the house by S. Bostwick and H. C. Rogers. On account of the Indian outbreak, an extra session was called by the governor, and it assembled September 9 and adjourned September 29.

1863—The fifth state legislature assembled January 6 and adjourned March 6. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Joseph H. Clark, and in the house by B. D. Sprague and S. P. Bacon.

1864—The sixth state legislature assembled January 5 and adjourned March 4. D. B. Sprague represented the fifteenth district in the senate and Royal Crane and Augustus Barlow in the house.

1865—The seventh state legislature assembled January 3 and adjourned March 3. The representatives from the fifteenth district were D. B. Sprague in the senate and Royal Crane and C. D. Tutbill in the house.

1866—The eighth state legislature assembled January 2 and adjourned March 2. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Samuel Lord, and in the house by C. J. Felch and D. B. Johnson, Jr., both from Mower county. This legislature reappor-

tioned the districts, but Mower and Dodge counties remained the fifteenth district with one senator and two representatives.

1867—The ninth state legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned March 8. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Samuel Lord, and in the house by C. J. Felch and D. B. Johnson, Jr.

1868—The tenth legislature assembled January 7 and adjourned March 6. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by W. E. Harris, and in the house by D. A. Shaw and E. K. Proper.

1869—The eleventh legislature assembled January 5 and adjourned March 5. W. E. Harris represented the fifteenth district in the senate, and T. J. Hunt and E. K. Proper in the house.

1870—The twelfth legislature assembled January 4 and adjourned March 4. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Samuel Lord, and in the house by G. M. Cameron and H. A. Brown.

1871—The thirteenth legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned March 3. The fifteenth district was represented in the senate by Samuel Lord, and in the house by Harlan W. Page, of Mower county, and W. G. Telfer. This legislature reapportioned the state, and for the first time Mower county became a district by itself, being designated the fourth district, with one senator and two representatives. Since that time Mower county has remained in a separate district.

1872—The fourteenth legislature assembled January 2 and adjourned March 1. Sherman Page represented the fourth district in the senate, and John T. Williams and J. M. Wyckoff in the house.

1873—The fifteenth legislature assembled January 7 and adjourned March 7. The representatives from the fourth district were N. K. Noble in the senate and O. O. Finhart and E. J. Stimson in the house.

1874—The seventeenth legislature assembled January 6 and adjourned March 6. Mower county was represented in the senate by E. H. Wells and in the house by Gunder Halvorson and A. E. Peck.

1875—The seventeenth legislature assembled January 5 and adjourned March 5. E. H. Wells represented Mower county in the senate, and John S. Irgens and Charles F. Greening in the house.

1876—The eighteenth legislature assembled January 4 and adjourned March 3. Mower county was represented in the senate by R. I. Smith, and in the house by H. F. Deming and C. F. Greening.

1877—The nineteenth legislature assembled January 2 and ad-

journd March 2. Mower county was represented in the senate by R. I. Smith, and in the house by S. J. Sanborn and Hosmer A. Brown.

1878—The twentieth legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned March 8. Mower county was represented in the senate by George W. Clough, and in the house by S. J. Sanborn and H. K. Volstad.

1879—The twenty-first legislature assembled January 7 and adjourned March 7. Mower county was represented in the senate by W. H. Officer, and in the house by J. F. Goodsell and J. D. Allen.

1881—The twenty-second legislature assembled January 4 and adjourned March 4. Mower county was represented in the senate by W. H. Officer, and in the house by J. D. Allen and P. A. Peterson. An extra session called to consider a constitutional question in regard to action taken on the state railroad bonds at the regular session, assembled October 11 and closed November 13. This legislature reapportioned the state and Mower county became the third district.

1883—The twenty-third legislature assembled January 2 and adjourned March 2. The third district was represented in the senate by W. L. Hollister, and in the house by John Frank and J. F. Carson.

1885—The twenty-fourth legislature assembled January 6 and adjourned March 6. Mower county was represented in the senate by W. T. Wilkins, and in the house by H. W. Lightley and J. F. Carson.

1887—The twenty-fifth legislature assembled January 4 and adjourned March 4. Mower county was represented in the senate by O. W. Gibson, and in the house by J. J. Furlong and E. S. Hoppin.

1889—The twenty-sixth legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned April 23. Mower county was represented in the senate by O. W. Gibson, and in the house by E. S. Hoppin and H. W. Lightley.

1891—Although a reapportionment had been made in 1889, Mower county still remained the third district. The twenty-seventh legislature assembled January 6 and adjourned April 20. The third district was represented in the senate by Oscar Ayers and in the house by J. J. Furlong and G. W. Benner.

1893—The twenty-eighth legislature convened January 3 and adjourned April 18. Mower county was represented in the third district by Oscar Ayers and in the house by J. J. Furlong and G. W. Benner.

1895—The twenty-ninth legislature convened January 8 and adjourned April 23. Mower county was represented in the senate

by S. Sweningson, and in the house by J. J. Furlong and John Mathison.

1897—The thirtieth legislature assembled January 5 and adjourned April 21. Mower county was represented in the senate by S. Sweningsen, and in the house of C. L. West and L. C. Scribner. In the reapportionment of this legislature Mower county became the sixth district, with one senator and two representatives.

1899—The thirty-first legislature assembled January 3 and adjourned April 18. The sixth district was represented in the senate by S. Sweningsen, and in the house by C. L. West and L. C. Scribner.

1901—The thirty-second legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned April 12. Mower county was represented in the senate by S. Sweningsen, and in the house by George W. W. Harden and W. A. Nolan. An extra session assembled February 4, 1902, and adjourned March 11 of the same year.

1903—The thirty-third legislature assembled January 6 and adjourned April 21. Mower county was represented in the senate by A. S. Campbell, and in the house by W. A. Nolan and H. W. Lightley.

1905—The thirty-fourth legislature assembled January 3 and adjourned April 18. Mower county was represented in the senate by A. S. Campbell, and in the house by W. A. Nolan and G. W. W. Harden.

1907—The thirty-fifth legislature assembled January 8 and adjourned April 24. Mower county was represented in the senate by A. S. Campbell, and in the house by W. A. Nolan and W. L. Hollister.

1909—The thirty-sixth legislature assembled January 5 and adjourned January 5. Mower county was represented in the senate by A. S. Campbell, and in the house by W. W. Nolan and Hubbard Carey.

1911—The thirty-seventh legislature assembled January 3, 1911. Mower county was represented in the senate by Charles F. Cook, and in the house by Ralph Crane and Frank S. Christie.

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION.

The first congressional district, in which, from the time of the admission of Minnesota as a state, Mower county has been included, has been represented in congress as follows: J. A. Cavanaugh, Democrat, March 12, 1858, to March 4, 1859; William Windom, Republican, March 4, 1859, to March 4, 1869; Morton S. Wilkinson, Republican, March 4, 1869, to March 4, 1871; Mark H. Dunnell, Republican, March 4, 1871, to March 4,

1883; Milo White, Republican, March 4, 1883, to March 4, 1887; Thomas Wilson, Democrat, March 4, 1887, to March 4, 1889; Mark H. Dunnell, Republican, March 4, 1889, to March 4, 1891; W. H. Harries, Democrat, March 4, 1891, to March 4, 1893; James A. Tawney, Republican, March 4, 1893, to March 4, 1911; Sidney A. Anderson, progressive Republican, 1911-13.

Until Minnesota became a state it had only one representative in congress, a territorial delegate, who was not allowed to vote. The first territorial delegate from Minnesota was Henry H. Sibley, who was first sent ostensibly as a delegate from the territory of Wisconsin, though living on the present site of Mendota, at the mouth of the Minnesota river. He sat as a territorial delegate from January 15, 1849, to December 5, 1853. He was succeeded by Henry M. Rice, who served until December 7, 1857. W. W. Kingsbury was elected to succeed him and served until December 6, 1858. As has been noted, the United States senate, February 23, 1857, passed an act authorizing the people of Minnesota to form a constitution preparatory to their admission to the union. In accordance with the provisions of this enabling act, a constitutional convention was held July 13, 1857, at the territorial capital. October 13, 1857, an election was held, when the constitution was adopted and a full list of state officers elected. Three congressmen were also elected at this time—George L. Becker, W. W. Phelps and J. M. Cavanaugh—but it was afterward found that Minnesota was entitled to only two congressmen and the matter was amicably adjusted by the withdrawal of Mr. Becker. By this election, the Messrs. Phelps and Cavanaugh became the first members of congress from the state of Minnesota.

In the winter of 1857-58 the legislature divided the state into two congressional districts, the southern part becoming the first congressional district and the northern part the second, Mower county thus becoming a part of the first congressional district.

By the apportionment of 1872, the state was divided into three congressional districts. The first district contained the counties of Winona, Houston, Olmsted, Fillmore, Dodge, Steele, Mower, Freeborn, Waseca, Faribault, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Martin, Jackson, Cottonwood, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone and Rock.

By the apportionment of 1881, the state was divided into five congressional districts. The first district contained the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Freeborn, Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona and Wabasha.

By the apportionment of 1891, the state was divided into seven congressional districts. The first district contained the counties of Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca and Winona.

By the apportionment of 1901, the state was divided into nine congressional districts. This apportionment has continued to the present day. The first district now consists of the counties of Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca and Winona.

CHAPTER X.

BENCH AND BAR.

Judicial History of Mower County—Judges Who Have Presided in the Courts of This District—Their Life, Ability and Characteristics—The Men Who Have Made Up the Bar of the County—Notable Cases That Have Been Tried Here—By Attorney Lafayette French.

Nearly forty years ago there came to this county a young lawyer, just starting his career, who at once took an active part in the stirring events which for so many years made Mower county the maelstrom of political and legal conflicts. He has continued to remain here, has filled various offices, and has always stood for clean, vigorous manhood in public and private life. As an attorney he is particularly gifted, having a thorough knowledge of the law, forensic abilities, acute perceptions and keen mind. Few lawyers in the state have tried as many cases before the higher courts, and none have won a higher percentage of important suits. In securing such a man to write of the Bench and Bar, the publishers of this work are especially fortunate, for aside from his other equipment, he came here only sixteen years after the arrival of the first Mower county attorney, and has since been in active practice. Therefore the following article by the Hon. Lafayette French will not only be of deepest interest at the present time, but will also be a valuable work of reference throughout the coming years.

THE BENCH.

By an act of the legislature passed March 1, 1858, the county of Mower was declared to be an organized county. Commissioners were appointed to establish the county seat, and later it was made a part of the fifth judicial district. Hon. N. M. Donaldson

was elected the first judge of the fifth judicial district, and the first term of court held in Mower county was September, 1858. When the fifth judicial district was organized there were but six judicial districts in this state. Judge Donaldson presided over the fifth judicial district until January 1, 1872, when his successor, the Hon. Samuel Lord, officiated. At the time of his retirement Judge Donaldson was a man well along in years. He possessed a good deal of dignity, candor and fairness. There was little business during his term of office to transact in this county, and the suits involved were chiefly those for money demand. He resided at Owatonna, and died a few years after he ceased to be judge. Judge Samuel Lord, who was elected as Judge Donaldson's successor, lived at Mantorville, Dodge county, Minnesota, and held but two terms of court in this county. He was a fair judge and gave general satisfaction. In the winter of 1872 a new judicial district was created composed of the counties of Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Freeborn, and at fall election the Hon. Sherman Page was elected judge of the newly created district. Judge Page held office during the term of six years. He was a man of marked ability and possessed of an analytical mind of large perception, and was quick to dispatch business, but he was too much of a partisan to be a judge. Naturally combative, quick to form conclusions, he took sides on every matter that came before him. He was a man of strong feelings, but when he did not allow his judgment to be warped by prejudice against the attorneys of parties of the cause before him he was a very able judge. In the fall of 1878 the lower house of the legislature prepared articles of impeachment and he was put upon his trial in May, 1878, before the senate sitting as a court of impeachment. The prosecution lacked the requisite number of votes to convict him and he was acquitted. The charges consisted largely of allegations of "wrongful, malicious and oppressive conduct, while judge." After his impeachment trial he again was a candidate for election, but was defeated by Hon. J. Q. Farmer, of Spring Valley, Fillmore county. Judge Farmer continued to preside over the district for thirteen years, when he voluntarily and of his own motion retired from office. While Judge Farmer was not a student, he possessed a judicial mind, and was eminently fair. Jurors, suitors and attorneys in his court felt instinctively that they had been dealt with in all fairness. He was loved and esteemed by both the laity and the bar of his district. He was one of the most conscientious and fair-minded men that presided over the courts of this state. He was not a learned lawyer, did not profess to be, but he had a judicial mind with rugged common sense and a love of justice that

made him almost an ideal judge. There are few judges that were more universally loved and esteemed by the people of his judicial district than he. Judge Farmer, refusing to serve longer upon the bench, was succeeded by the election of the Hon. John Whytock, of Albert Lea, Freeborn county. He acted as judge for the full term of his office, six years, and at the November election he was re-elected. In November, 1897, while holding court at Preston, Fillmore county, he was taken ill and a few weeks after died at his home in Albert Lea. Judge Whytock was a good lawyer and had many qualifications that fitted him for a judge, but he was hard of hearing, and considerably more so than he realized. There was some difficulty in transacting business before him. He did not hear all of the testimony and hence in ruling upon questions of the admissibility of evidence appeared to disadvantage, but he was a good man, intended to be fair, and aside from the defect of hearing, made a good judge. Governor Clough appointed as his successor the Hon. Nathan Kingsley, of Austin, Mower county, and he has been re-elected judge of this district without opposition to the present time. He has served with entire satisfaction to the bar and the people of this district. He is peculiarly fitted and qualified for a good judge. He has, in a marked degree, a judicial mind. He is studious, painstaking and careful and above all he possesses that candor and fairness which is becoming to a judge. Industrious, he is diligent in his search for the right, and his sense of justice is tempered by his mild and humane manner. Patience, studiousness and the love of justice are some of his distinctive characteristics. He is still the presiding judge. Judge Kingsley is also a prominent Mason, and is Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, R. A. M.

THE BAR.

The first attorney to establish himself in the law business at Austin was Ormanzo Allen, who came from Wisconsin, July 2, 1856. He continued to reside here until his death a few years ago. He was engaged in the trial of but few cases. He was an office lawyer and confined his labors to conveyancing and giving advice. He was an exemplary citizen, and at one time was considered quite wealthy, but in later years lost the bulk of his property in speculation.

The second lawyer to establish himself in Austin was Aaron S. Everest. He came from High Forest in August, 1856, and was formerly, it is believed, a resident of the state of New York. His education was limited, but he possessed a good deal of native ability and was naturally a good lawyer. He was quite active in politics while he resided in this county. In 1870 he removed

to Athison, Kansas, where, in connection with his partner, Mr. Wagner, he built up a large and lucrative business. He died some seven or eight years ago at Atchison, Kansas.

Another lawyer of considerable note was D. B. Johnson, Jr. He came to Austin in 1856. He engaged in surveying and merchandising until the term of court held in September, 1858, when he was admitted to the bar. Like most lawyers he was engaged in politics, and held the offices of justice of peace, county attorney one term, and county auditor one term. In August, 1871, he was appointed one of the associate justices of the territory of New Mexico, but resigned in 1872. From 1858 until 1871 he was associated in the practice of law under the firm name of Cameron & Johnson. After his retirement from the bench in 1872 he was in practice alone until 1888, when he formed a partnership with S. D. Catherwood. Later in the eighties he was elected county attorney, and after his retirement from office moved to Portland, Oregon, where he died twelve or fifteen years ago. Judge Johnson was a man of more than the ordinary ability. He was possessed of a fair education and was quite studious. He possessed a quick and logical mind, and would have been a splendid trial lawyer if he had been more aggressive and possessed of confidence in his own ability. He was regarded as one of the ablest trial lawyers in the county.

C. J. Short came to Minnesota in 1856 and settled in Northfield, where he engaged in surveying. He was educated in the Vermont State University, where he graduated in 1855. He commenced the study of law in 1857, with Bachelor & Buckam, of Faribault, and in 1858 was admitted to practice. In the spring of 1859 he removed to Austin and formed a partnership with Ormanzo Allen, which continued for several years. He was elected county attorney in 1860 and held that office in 1860-61-62-63-65-66-69 and 70. He then moved to the town of Dexter, in this county, where he engaged in farming for six years. In 1881 he returned to Austin, where he resided until his death. He lacked the force and energy necessary to make him a successful lawyer. He was studious, and was reputed, in his day, to be the most scholarly lawyer at the bar.

George M. Cameron came to Austin, November 27, 1856. He was a Canadian by birth and educated in the district school and at the State University at Madison, Wisconsin. In 1858 he was admitted to the bar at Austin to practice in the courts of Minnesota. He always enjoyed a good practice while he lived and was in practice. He was elected to the office of probate judge in 1860 and was again elected in 1876 and 1878. He was the first mayor of the city of Austin. He was honorable in his profession and ranked high as a trial lawyer. When not serving as probate

judge he was constantly in active practice until he retired in 1887. He possessed a logical mind and a keen perception of what a controversy in question was about. He was looked upon as an able and honest lawyer. The fact of his being repeatedly chosen to important offices testifies as to his popularity as a man and recognition of his worth as a citizen. He was engaged as chief or associate counsel in all of the important cases that were tried in this county while he was in active practice. He was kind and benevolent to the poor. His charges for his services were reasonable and just. In 1887 his mind gave way, and he remained on his farm near Brownsdale in this county until the time of his death.

In 1866 Sherman Page and E. O. Wheeler came to Austin and formed a partnership in the practice of law. Mr. Wheeler coming direct, it is believed, from New York, which was his home, Mr. Page coming from Decorah, Iowa. Prior to that he had been at Lancaster, Wisconsin, for a number of years engaged as superintendent of the schools of both Decorah and Lancaster. Mr. Page was originally from Vermont. The firm of Page & Wheeler continued until the election of Mr. Page as judge of this district in 1872. They did a large commercial business and also dealt largely in real estate. Mr. Wheeler was a fine office lawyer, as well as a good counselor. After Mr. Page was elected judge Mr. Wheeler continued the practice of law either alone or in partnership with his brother, R. B. Wheeler, until 1879, when he moved to Auburn, New York, to engage in the practice of his profession with Judge Howland of that city. Judge Page remained upon the bench until his term of office expired January 1, 1880. He practiced until 1882, when he removed to California. Judge Page was a forcible and pleasant speaker. As a trial lawyer he had few equals, if any, in the state.

L. Beauregard practiced law for a short time in Austin. He was a law student in the office of Aaron S. Everest and was admitted to the bar under his tutelage. He was elected county attorney, but subsequently had to resign the office, and he removed to Utah and from there to New Mexico.

In 1871 John M. Greenman came to Austin. He was a native of New York, but when a young man removed to the state of Wisconsin. He formed a partnership with I. N. Hawkins and the firm continued until 1873. In 1896 he formed a partnership with R. J. Dowdall. He has served as county attorney, city attorney and judge of probate. Except while holding the office of judge of probate Mr. Greenman has been in active practice and one of the prominent attorneys of this county. He is a pleasant gentleman and a good lawyer.

Mr. Hawkins discontinued the practice of law after the dis-

solution of the firm of Greenman & Hawkins. He served as city attorney, and in 1873 was a candidate for senator but was defeated for that office. His defeat was due to the Grange movement, which swept the entire state, except that the Republicans elected their candidate for governor. Mr. Hawkins was suffering from a wound, which he had received in the civil war. He was a pleasant and amiable gentleman, and was a man possessed of considerable means. He removed from the state shortly after his defeat for the legislature.

In the early fall of 1871 Lafayette French came to Austin, and at the September term of court of that year was admitted to the bar. January 1, 1872, he formed a partnership with W. H. Crandall in the practice of law. In 1878 the firm was dissolved, Mr. Crandall retiring for the purpose of going into the insurance business. Mr. Crandall was a fair lawyer, but the turmoil and strife of an active life in the legal profession was distasteful to him. Mr. French has continued in the practice of his profession until the present time.

In 1870, Eugene B. Crane opened an office and commenced the practice of law. He soon engaged in the real estate business. He remained in Austin for several years and afterwards removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he is engaged in his profession.

W. H. Merrick studied law with his father in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He came to Austin and engaged in merchandise. Some years later he was admitted to the bar and practiced four or five years. In 1882 he removed to Portland, Oregon, where he now resides.

In 1875 or 1876 C. C. Kinsman came to Austin and opened an office for the practice of law. In the fall of 1878 he was nominated and elected county attorney. In January, 1880, he declined a renomination and was elected court commissioner. In 1881 he moved to Cumberland, Wisconsin, where he continued in practice until his death. He was a well read lawyer, but lacked force and aggressiveness. He was a gentleman of splendid habits and a good citizen.

In 1882 James D. Sheedy was admitted to the bar of this county. He served as justice of the peace and was in the office of Lafayette French about four and a half years, but the profession of the law was not lucrative enough and so, finally, he drifted into real estate and became connected with the Alliance Fire and Hail Insurance Company and afterwards became president of that company. The law was not to his taste. In his chosen field of labor he has been very successful and is a prominent worthy citizen.

In 1883 R. B. Wheeler, who succeeded the firm of E. O. Wheeler and R. B. Wheeler, removed to St. Paul. The firm of Richardson & Day succeeded to his business.

Richardson & Day were young men who had graduated at our high school in Austin. They did a commercial and real estate business similar to that of R. B. Wheeler. They associated with them L. A. Pierce, who came from Auburn, New York, in 1887. Mr. Pierce was an able lawyer, but his desire for office and extravagant habits prevented him from succeeding as a lawyer. In the fall of 1887 W. E. Richardson and F. A. Day removed to Duluth in this state, where they continued to follow the law and real estate business.

In 1887 Arthur W. Wright and LaFayette French bought out the business of Richardson & Day and formed a co-partnership under the firm name of French & Wright, Mr. Wright looking after the real estate and loans of the office and Mr. French seeing to the law business of the firm. They continued in business until 1898, when the firm dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Wright succeeding to the business and Mr. French continuing the practice of law alone. Since then Mr. Wright has had a large business in commercial law and real estate. He was elected county attorney and re-elected without opposition for eight years, when he voluntarily withdrew as a candidate for that office. Perhaps the county was never more fortunate than in the selection of Colonel Wright for county attorney. For honesty, efficiency and ability the county has been well served. He is still in active practice, with many years of usefulness before him. He served as major in the Spanish-American war and is one of the prominent men at the bar in this county. His correct life and high sense of honor and clean habits make him justly an ornament to the bar.

In 1886 or 1887 Nathan Kingsley and R. E. Shepherd moved over from Chatfield, Minnesota, to Austin. They opened an office under the firm name of Kingsley & Shepherd. The firm continued until Governor Clough, about twelve years ago, appointed Mr. Kingsley judge of the tenth judicial district. Both gentlemen were possessed of a high sense of honor and were leading attorneys here until the dissolution of the firm. The firm was continuously engaged on one side or the other of important litigation in this and adjoining counties. The firm did a successful business, Mr. Kingsley being especially strong as a trial lawyer. Upon the dissolution of the firm Mr. Shepherd was alone some two weeks and was succeeded by the firm of Shepherd & Catherwood. Mr. Shepherd was elected county attorney for two or three terms and made a good and efficient officer. He was a good lawyer and an enterprising citizen. He possessed a lovable nature, combined with wit and humor, that made him very popular with his brother lawyers. Some four or five years ago the firm was dissolved and he removed to Billings, Montana, where he engaged in the real estate and banking business, which was more congenial to his

taste than the practice of law. His partner, S. D. Catherwood, succeeded to the business of the firm. Mr. Catherwood spent most of his life in Austin or in the adjoining county of Freeborn. He is a graduate of the State University and not only possesses a good academic education, but is well grounded in the law. He was admitted to the bar in 1888, and has since been engaged in the practice at the city of Austin. He has been county attorney for three terms, and that is the only office he has aspired to. He has not engaged in any other business except the practice of law. He stands high in the rank of lawyers in southern Minnesota, and in the state. His life demonstrates what a young man who has fair ability, with industry and close attention to business can accomplish in a lifetime. Mr. Catherwood is in the prime of life and enjoys a lucrative business. He is a good all around lawyer. One year ago he formed a co-partnership with J. N. NicholSEN, and the firm promises to be one of the strongest in the southern part of the state.

Mr. NicholSEN is a graduate of the Austin high school, read law in the office of Kingsley & Shepherd, and attended the law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was thoroughly equipped for the practice of his profession when he was admitted to the bar in 1902. Shortly after his admission he formed a partnership with Frank E. Putnam at Blue Earth, under the firm name of Putnam & NicholSEN. The firm continued until 1909, when it was dissolved, Mr. NicholSEN coming to Austin and forming a partnership with S. D. Catherwood. The firm has a wide and extensive practice.

W. W. Ranney is a graduate of the law department in the State University of Iowa, in 1876. In 1878 he located at Grand Meadow in this county, where he practiced his profession for a number of years. He then removed to Austin, where he was elected to the office of probate judge. He has been more of an office than a trial lawyer. He is a good citizen and highly respected by all who know him.

In 1882 Lyman D. Baird was admitted to the bar. He was city attorney of Austin in 1884. Since 1885 he has confined himself chiefly to the real estate business, in which he has been a decided success. Mr. Baird is considered a shrewd man of business and an enterprising and public spirited citizen, and one of the most progressive young men in the city of Austin.

In April, 1884, L. F. Clausen moved from Blooming Prairie to Austin, opened an office and engaged in the practice of law until about 1902, when he removed to North Dakota, where he is still engaged in the practice of his profession. Mr. Clausen was elected county attorney of this county a short time after moving here. He was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, in 1856, and is a son of

Rev. C. L. Clausen, the founder of the Lutheran church at Austin, and one of the earliest ministers of that denomination in Austin, Minnesota.

In 1896 R. J. Dowdall, a Canadian by birth, came to Austin and formed a partnership with J. M. Greenman for the practice of law. Mr. Dowdall was a gentleman of fine ability and came from a family of some prominence in Canada. He continued in the practice of law at Austin some five or six years, when he removed to the northern part of the state. He was a strong trial lawyer, but was not discriminating enough and often appeared on the wrong side of a case.

Ten years ago T. H. Pridham came to Austin and engaged in the practice of law until the summer of 1910. Mr. Pridham was industrious and painstaking in the business entrusted to his care. He was city attorney for six or eight years and resigned that office when he removed to Helena, Montana. He is a young man of good habits and quite promising in his profession.

In 1900 Fay W. Greenman was admitted to the bar. He is a son of J. M. Greenman and upon his admission became a member of the firm of Greenman & Dowdall, the name being changed to Greenman, Dowdall & Greenman. When the firm was dissolved and his father elected to the office of judge of probate, he practiced his profession alone. He graduated from the high school of Austin with honors. He is a young man of good habits, studious and industrious. In his social relations he is a most agreeable young man. In the ten years that he has been in practice he has built up a good business for a young man. He has tried a good many cases and many with credit to himself.

In 1909 Frank G. Sasse came to Austin from Fairmont, Minnesota, and formed a co-partnership with LaFayette French. Mr. Sasse graduated from the academic department of the State University with honor in 1898 and from the law department of that institution in 1900. He practiced his profession at St. Charles, Minnesota, for two or three years, when he removed to Fairmont where he formed a partnership under the name of Mathwig & Sasse. In the fall of 1908 he was elected county attorney of Martin county, but resigned the office when he moved to Austin to become associated with Mr. French. He is very studious and has all the qualifications for making a successful lawyer.

In addition to the lawyers of Austin there have been several at LeRoy village, Grand Meadow village and the village of Brownsdale. F. M. Goodykoontz was the first lawyer at the village of LeRoy, coming there in 1867 from Iowa. He formed a co-partnership with J. M. Wykoff. When the firm was dissolved he removed to Nora Springs, and from there to Mason City, Iowa, and in 1884 he moved to South Dakota. He was a lawyer

of a good deal of ability and his removal from the state was a decided loss to the profession.

J. M. Wykoff continued to do business alone, but his practice has been confined chiefly to real estate, conveyance and office work.

Joseph McKnight was admitted to the bar at Austin in 1882, together with J. F. Trask, E. J. Kingsbury and J. S. Bishop. They constituted the bar at LeRoy until about 1895.

G. W. W. Harden is a graduate of the law school of the State University, has been village attorney, and in 1901 was elected a member of the state legislature. He is a good lawyer but his work is confined mostly to commercial business and real estate. He is still in practice at LeRoy.

Judge Ranney was formerly at Grand Meadow, but being elected judge of probate, moved to Austin.

About 1878 George F. Goodwin opened an office at Grand Meadow. In 1880 or 1881 he was elected to the office of county attorney. He prosecuted, while county attorney, the case of the state vs. John A. Riley for attempt to murder Judge Page. He was assisted in that case by Hon. J. M. Burlingame, of Owatonna, Minnesota. In 1884 he removed to North Dakota and was elected attorney general of that state shortly after it was admitted into the Union. He held the office one term and then moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. He is a studious, painstaking young lawyer, and since leaving this state has gained considerable prominence.

Capt. A. J. Hunt came to Brownsdale village in 1873. He was formerly from Wisconsin. He opened an office and was engaged in the practice of law and dealt in real estate until 1888, when he moved to Georgia.

Otto and Carl Baudler are graduates of the Austin high school, and from the law department of the State University. They commenced the practice of law three years ago at Blooming Prairie, in Steele county. In 1909 they moved to Austin and opened an office. In the fall of 1910 Otto Baudler was elected county attorney of this county by a handsome vote. They are brothers and sons of William Baudler, who is one of the pioneers of Austin. They are clean, studious young men and they promise to be quite an acquisition to the bar. This comprises the lawyers who reside and practiced in Mower county.

In 1890 A. C. Page was admitted to the bar, since which time he has been in the office of L. D. Baird. He is a young man of exemplary habits and is given more to real estate and collections than to trial practice. At present he is alderman at large in the city of Austin.

In 1903 Edward P. Kelly was admitted to the bar. For three years he read law under the direction of Lafayette French and

attended the Summer Law School at Ann Arbor, Mich., for two years. After his admission to the bar he formed a partnership with Lafayette French under the firm name of French & Kelly, which continued until 1905, when he removed to Carrington, N. D., where he is still engaged in the practice of law. Mr. Kelly is well equipped for the practice of his profession and from the time of his admission until the present time he has met with splendid success in his profession.

In 1907 Henry Weber, Jr., was admitted to practice law. He was located at Dexter, in this county, and continued in the practice until the fall of 1910, when he was elected probate judge of this county, which office he fills at the present time. Mr. Weber is an exemplary citizen and his honor and integrity are beyond question.

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES.

This article would be incomplete without stating some of the most important criminal and civil cases with which the lawyers of this county were connected.

The first homicide case was that of Chauncey Leverich. Leverich was in a saloon in Austin in the month of August, 1856, and was killed by Horace Silver and William Oliver. Silver and Oliver were arrested for assault and battery and Silver fined \$20.00 and Oliver \$10.00. The prosecution was conducted by John Tift and the defense by Arron S. Everest and O. Allen. When the defendants learned that Leverich would not recover, they paid their fines and left the country. Leverich died from the wounds he received a week later. The county was new and this case illustrates the crude way in which justice was administered in an early day.

In 1868 John and Oliver Potter and George and William Kemp with others were arrested for killing Chauncey Knapp. C. J. Short appeared for the state and John Q. Farmer, of Fillmore county, who afterwards became district judge of this district, and his brother, J. D. Farmer, appeared for the defendants. George and William Kemp were tried and acquitted. A change of venue was granted the Potters and the case sent to Fillmore county. Judge Donaldson was the presiding judge. None of the parties was ever punished for this foul murder.

In 1873 the case of the State of Minnesota against Ole Bang, charged with homicide, was tried. Bang was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced for four years in the state prison. The prosecution was conducted by E. O. Wheeler, the then county attorney. The defendant's counsel was Sherman Page. Judge Samuel Lord presiding.

The most important criminal case was tried at the March term of the district court in 1881, the State of Minnesota vs. John A. Riley. Riley was charged with an attempt to assassinate Judge Sherman Page. George F. Goodwin was the then prosecuting attorney, and he was ably assisted by J. M. Burlingame, Esq., an able attorney from Owatonna. The defendant was represented by Lafayette French, G. M. Cameron, of this city, and W. W. Erwin, of St. Paul. Judge Daniel A. Dickenson, who was then district judge at Mankato and later one of the associate justices of the Supreme Bench, was called by Judge Farmer to preside in his place. The case was an important one. It probably created as much talk and newspaper comment as any case tried in the county. Judge Page, whom Riley was charged with attempt to assassinate, was a prominent person. Riley was brought by Pinkerton's detective from the neighboring state of Wisconsin into Minnesota to answer to the charge. He was confined in a jail outside the county. The sentiment in favor of and against Page was intensely partisan. There was a great deal of feeling displayed during the trial by the attorneys and parties interested in the case. After a lengthy trial the jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty" and Riley was discharged from custody. The case was ably handled by the attorneys for the state. Mr. Erwin made the closing argument for the defense. He was then in his prime, forty or forty-five years of age, and had a great reputation as a criminal lawyer. Probably his argument was the finest ever made to a jury in this county. Two years ago he died in Florida.

In January, 1874, was tried the case of the State of Minnesota vs. W. D. Jaynes. The defendant was indicted on the charge of rape. The immediate parties stood high in social circles and the arrest of Jaynes created a great sensation in this county. The state was represented by LaFayette French, the county attorney, and Colonel Kerr, of St. Paul, and the defendant by E. O. Wheeler and Gordon E. Cole, of Faribault. Judge Page was presiding judge. The first trial resulted in the conviction of Jaynes, but a new trial was granted on the ground that the prisoner was not present in court but was confined in the county jail at the time the jury returned the verdict. The case was afterwards tried twice. The second time the jury disagreed and the third time Jaynes was acquitted. In the last two trials the state was represented by Lafayette French and M. J. Severance, of Mankato, and the defendant by Wheeler and Cole. During the trial there was an immense crowd, and only about half of the curious ones could get into the court house. M. J. Severance closed for the state and Gordon E. Cole for the defendant. They were both able lawyers and had a state wide reputation.

In June, 1898, the case of the State of Minnesota vs. Milt

Williams was tried. Williams was charged with the murder of one Flynn. Williams' mother kept a hotel in the city of Austin. Flynn and Williams had been drinking one evening, and while engaged in conversation with two girls who worked for Mrs. Williams, Milt shot Flynn. Williams was a young man, twenty-six years of age, who had been petted and humored by his mother. He was mixed up in several fights before this one. The state was represented by S. D. Catherwood, who was then county attorney, and Lafayette French. Greenman & Dowdall represented the defendant. Judge Whitock was the presiding judge. The trial lasted for several days. There was a good deal of excitement during the trial. The jury found the defendant guilty as charged in the indictment. Afterwards W. W. Erwin was called into the case and a motion made for a new trial and argued and the same denied by the court. An application to the pardoning board was made in behalf of Williams and Erwin succeeded in getting Williams' sentence commuted from murder in the first degree to murder in the second degree, and he was sentenced to the penitentiary for life. He and his counsel stipulated that no further pardon or commutation of his sentence would be asked for. Too much credit cannot be given to Mr. Catherwood, the then county attorney, in his management of the case. Flynn's body had been shipped to Buffalo within a day or two after the shooting and without Mr. Catherwood's knowledge. There were several things in the prosecution that would have prevented the conviction had it not been for the skill and industry displayed by the county attorney. The conviction of Williams, who had an unsavory reputation, was due to the efforts of Mr. Catherwood.

In 1900 John B. Anderson was indicted, charged with the crime of murder. Anderson was a farmer living in the town of Marshall, and had a wife and several small children. He killed his wife by beating her brains out with a flat-iron. When the neighbors discovered her she was lying on the floor in a pool of blood. A nursing child who had attempted to reach its mother's breast to nurse had crawled through this blood. Anderson was found concealed in a straw stack. It was a horrible crime and the community was very much wrought up. On his arraignment he entered a plea of not guilty. The state was represented by R. E. Sheperd, the then county attorney of this county, and the defendant by Lafayette French, who had consented to appear for Anderson through the entreaties of his friends. After a thorough investigation of the matter, the defendant's counsel became convinced that Anderson was insane at the time he committed the crime. He had fallen from a mast of a ship years before, receiving an injury to his head, from which he suffered thereafter. This injury to the brain, his counsel believed, had

affected his mind to such an extent that he was not responsible for the act, but that he was a man that ought not to be turned loose, and for the protection of society ought to be confined in some safe place. After mature deliberation and a conference with the attorney general, it was deemed advisable to have him withdraw his plea of not guilty and to enter a plea of guilty of murder in the second degree. The action of the court and the counsel in the disposition of this case was generally commended throughout the county.

In January, 1903, Frank W. Bell was indicted and charged with murder in the first degree. The state was represented by Col. A. W. Wright, the then county attorney, and S. D. Catherwood, and the defendant was represented by Lafayette French. Judge Kingsley was presiding judge. Bell was the station agent of the Chicago Great Western Railway Company at Elkton, in this county. A man by the name of Cole had shipped a car of lumber to Elkton to be unloaded and to be hauled by team near the village of Grand Meadow. Cole employed Nelson S. Green, with his team, to draw the lumber. The car had been at Elkton for several days and there was some demurrage charges against it. Green came after the lumber in the morning but Bell refused to break the seal and open the car until the demurrage charges were paid. Green was a large, muscular man, while Bell was a diminutive, frail man. Green attempted to break the seal of the car and Bell tried to prevent him. Cole telephoned Green to break the seal and, if necessary, break Bell's head. Green picked up a piece of board for the purpose, it was claimed by the state, to break the car seal, but defendant claimed that it was for the purpose of striking Bell. Bell drew a revolver and shot Green twice. Either shot would have proved fatal in time. Green died within a few hours afterwards. There was a great deal of feeling, Green being a prominent farmer, a Mason and a Grand Army man. It was almost impossible at the first trial to secure an impartial verdict. The jury rendered a verdict of guilty within a few moments after retiring. The defendant moved for a new trial, which was granted, and a special term held in March, 1903. On a second trial the defendant was acquitted. The trial of this case illustrates how easily public sentiment can be changed by a knowledge of the facts. At the beginning of the first trial the people clamored for the defendant's conviction, but at the second trial public sentiment had changed and he was acquitted. Bell was a weak man physically and mentally. He was unbalanced, and shortly after the last trial he became insane and was sent to an asylum in Michigan.

In 1871 the board of county commissioners of Mower county commenced an action against Sylvester Smith. Smith had been

county treasurer of the county for eight years. The system of bookkeeping in vogue in the several county offices was very lax and crude. Smith was considered an honest man by people who knew him, but an accountant hired by the county to examine the books found that he was short about \$42,000. Suit was brought by the county against Smith to recover this sum. Page & Wheeler and Bachelor & Buckham were attorneys for the county and Cameron & Johnson, Gordon E. Cole and R. A. Jones appeared as attorneys for Smith. The case was referred to three referees, whom the court appointed to hear and try the case and report judgment. After a somewhat lengthy trial the referees so appointed found a judgment of about \$20,000 against Smith. Smith appealed the case to the Supreme Court and the case was sent back for another hearing. Mr. Page in the meantime had been elected judge of the District Court, and having been of the counsel was ineligible to sit and try the case. The parties agreed and the court appointed three other referees. The case came on for second trial, and Lafayette French, the then county attorney, E. O. Wheeler and Bachelor & Buckham appeared for the county, and Cameron & Johnson, Gordon E. Cole and R. A. Jones appeared for Mr. Smith. After a lengthy trial the referees reported judgment in favor of Mr. Smith. The county records were kept so imperfectly that it was impossible to tell whether Smith should be charged with the shortage or not. Smith was believed to be honest, and that the discrepancy of the books and shortage in his accounts were due to the loose manner of keeping the books and accounts.

In 1870 a complaint was sworn out against Sherman Page for tearing up a sidewalk. A warrant was issued and placed in the hands of Allan Mollison, the then sheriff, for service. He went to the office of Page & Wheeler to make the arrest late one afternoon. After a scuffle and words with the defendant, who refused to go, the curtains were pulled down and Page lit his lamps. The sheriff then stepped to the window and called his deputy, Colos Fenton, to assist him. He found the door leading to the office locked, and after calling to Page to unlock the door and a refusal on his part to do so, he knocked the door down and went in and arrested him. Mollison was sued by Page for false imprisonment, holding that as the charge was a mere misdemeanor he could not legally be arrested after dark. Fenton was sued for breaking the door and entering the office in an action of trespass. The case against Fenton came on for trial at the September term in 1871. Page & Wheeler were their own attorneys and G. M. Cameron and R. A. Jones, of Rochester, were attorneys for Fenton. The case came on for trial before Judge Donaldson and a jury. The case hinged largely upon the point

whether the arrest was in the night time. Mr. Page summed up for the plaintiff and R. A. Jones for the defendant. It is a comment on the crude manner in which the courts were conducted in those days to note that all the counsel did in the summing up of the case was to abuse each other. The jury after being charged returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$600. Judgment was entered and later paid in full.

In 1884 a fire occurred at Brownsdale in the saloon and clothing store of George E. Rolph. The insurance companies, three in number, under a pretext that they were investigating the facts, required that Rolph submit to an examination, before a justice of the peace at Grand Meadow. The examination disclosed nothing but what the loss was a legitimate one and ought to be paid by the insurance companies, but they refused to pay it. Proofs of loss had not been made or submitted to the companies. Later proofs of loss were made and served upon the companies. They were returned and rejected on the ground that they were not made within the time required by the policies. Suit was then commenced against the companies to recover the insurance. The companies answered and claimed that Rolph had set fire and destroyed the property; that he had sworn falsely in his statement in regard to the amount of property he had; that proofs of loss were not furnished in time as provided in the policies, and that the policies were void because he had no license to sell intoxicating liquors at the time. The case against the insurance companies came on for trial before Judge Farmer and a jury. Lafayette French appeared for the plaintiff and Laing & Molyneaux appeared for the defendants. The plaintiff had to rely for the most part upon a waiver. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff in the three cases. One of the insurance companies, the Concordia, of Milwaukee, after the trial, paid up the amount recovered against that company. The other two companies, the Milwaukee Mechanics' Mutual and The German, of Freeport, made a motion for a new trial, which was denied, and the cases were taken to the supreme court on appeal. While the two civil suits against the companies were pending in the supreme court Rolph was arrested, charged with the crimes of arson and perjury. He had testified in the civil suits as to what property was in the building at the time of the fire and that he did not know how the fire took place. In the criminal cases of the state vs. Rolph, J. M. Greenman, the then county attorney, and J. W. Lusk, of St. Paul, appeared for the state and John A. Lovely and Lafayette French appeared for the defendant. The state claimed that Rolph fired the building, and that some of the property, a large amount of liquor, was removed by Rolph and buried upon the farm of one Warren. The insurance companies had hired Pinkerton de-

tectives and they had found the liquor concealed on Warren's farm. Warren and his wife had made the confession to the detectives that they had assisted Rolph in concealing the liquor. Rolph was tried on the indictment charging him with perjury. Counsel for the state and for the defendant agreed to submit the case upon the evidence and the judge's charge, without argument, although it was well known that J. W. Lusk, who appeared for the state, was one of the most able and skillful jury advocates while John A. Lovely had a reputation for being a most eloquent and able advocate. The jury retired and returned a verdict of "Not guilty." The state dismissed the other indictments. The appeal cases of the insurance companies were likewise dismissed. The liquor, which had been found on Warren's farm by the detectives, was turned over to the county attorney to be used upon the trial of the case against Rolph. After the termination of the criminal cases the court entered an order for the county attorney to turn over the liquor to his counsel, who had taken a bill of sale of the liquor from Rolph. After the arrest the liquor was safely kept in the cellar of the county attorney. When the liquor was opened and counsel were ready to dispose of it, they found that the liquor had been drawn out of the casks and water substituted in its place. While considerable fun was had at the expense of the county attorney, no one thought seriously that he was responsible for disposing of the liquor.

Probably the most important civil case that was ever tried in this county was the suit brought by Louis Rex Clay, by his guardian ad litem, Ida B. Clay vs. the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company and Thomas H. Bennett, to recover damages, which the plaintiff sustained at the village of Lyle, Minnesota, on December 7, 1905. The case came on for trial at the January term, 1907. On the first trial the jury disagreed and the second trial of the case came on a few weeks later. At both trials the plaintiff, Louis Rex Clay, was unable to be present in court. On the suggestion of his counsel, the jury and the lawyers, clerk of court and the sheriff, as well as Judge Kingsley, who presided at the trial, adjourned to his father's residence and his testimony was given while lying in bed. He was paralyzed from his shoulders down. He was a mere skeleton and unable to use any part of his body from below his head, but his mind and intellect was as clear as it ever was. He entered the employment of the company in the fall of 1905 as a freight brakeman. He was struck by an elevated platform at the station of Lyle and was thereby swept from the west side of a coal car on which he was hanging and thereby injured. The plaintiff was a young man about eighteen years old, bright and intelligent.

His father was an old conductor in the employ of the company. The negligence charged in the complaint was that the company constructed and maintained the elevated platform in question in too close proximity to passing cars; that without any advice or instruction or information as to the dangerous character of the platform, he was directed and ordered to ride upon a gondola car of unusual width by this platform. The second trial lasted several days, and when the case was submitted to them the jury returned a verdict for \$35,000 against the company. Eighteen days after the verdict the plaintiff died from his injuries. The company made a motion for a judgment, notwithstanding the verdict, and in case that was denied, for a new trial. Both motions were denied and the case was taken on appeal to the supreme court. Owing to the importance of the case the rule was suspended and counsel were allowed as much time as they wished for argument, and were unlimited as to the number of counsel who were to argue the case. The case was ably argued by counsel for the railroad company, but after due consideration by the court the case was affirmed. In the trial the plaintiff was represented by Lovely & Dunn and Lafayette French, and the defendant by S. D. Catherwood and M. B. Webber, of Winona. On May 4, 1908, the company paid this verdict, which amounted to \$37,857.93, the largest verdict in a personal injury case that the supreme court of this state has ever affirmed.

CHAPTER XI.

COMING OF THE RAILROADS.

Old Land Grant Roads With Extensive Concessions—Roadbed Graded Through Mower County—Engine Reaches Le Roy—Freight Car Passes Through Mower County from New York to St. Paul—Later Growth and Development of the Railroad System in the County—Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul—Chicago Great Western—Illinois Central.

Mower county is crossed by the lines of three great railways: The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Chicago Great Western and the Dubuque & Sioux City, operated by the Illinois Central. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has two lines and five divisions in the county. The Iowa & Minnesota line has stations in this county at Lansing, Ramsey, Austin, Rose Creek, Adams, Taopi and Le Roy. The Mason City to Austin line has stations in this

county at Lansing, Ramsey, Varco and Lyle. These two lines embrace the following divisions: Iowa and Minnesota; Mason City to Austin; St. Paul, Minneapolis and Des Moines; and the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Kansas City. The Southern Minnesota division has stations in this county at Ramsey, Brownsdale, Dexter and Grand Meadow. The Chicago Great Western has also three lines in this county. The Minneapolis & St. Paul-Council Bluffs & Omaha Short line has stations in this county at Waltham, Mayville, Austin, Varco and Lyle. The Minneapolis & St. Paul-Chicago & Dubuque line, which in this county is identical with the Minneapolis & St. Paul-Des Moines, St. Joseph, Leavenworth & Kansas City short line, has stations in this county at Sargeant, Renova, Elkton and Taopi. The Minneapolis, St. Paul, Red Wing, Rochester and Osage line, leased from the Wisconsin, Minnesota & Pacific Railway Company, has stations at Racine and Le Roy in this county. The Dubuque & Sioux City, operated by the Illinois Central, has one branch, the Cedar Falls & Minnesota in this county, and one station, Lyle.

These roads have been built at various times, and under varying circumstances. The proposition for a railroad in Mower county was made in 1854, when the Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad Company was incorporated by the legislature to construct a line from Lake Superior by way of St. Paul, by the most practicable route to the Iowa line. This company was given a grant of alternate sections, six sections wide, on either side of the road it should build from the Iowa line northward, anywhere between ranges 9 and 17. This would have made it possible for the company to have secured control of considerable land in Mower county. In 1858 the grant to this company was made still more definite, and including the building of a line road that should leave the Iowa line west of section thirteen and pass through Austin. The provisions of the grant were not complied with by the road, and the company never came into possession of the grant. In 1858 the grade for the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley road was made in this county. Then came nine years of waiting, during which time various propositions and wildcat plans were afloat. After this, on September 9, 1867, the first railroad engine ever operated in Mower county reached Le Roy.

The Minnesota & Northwestern. On June 29, 1854, the United States congress passed an act to aid the territory of Minnesota in the construction of a railroad from the southern line of the territory, commencing at a point between ranges 9 and 17; thence by way of St. Paul, by the most practicable route to the eastern line of the territory of Lake Superior. The act granted every alternate section of land, six sections in width, designated by odd numbers on both sides of road as it should be built. In the terri-

torial legislature of 1854, Joseph R. Brown introduced a bill to incorporate the Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad Company. It was passed at midnight, on the last day of the session, and, contrary to expectation, Governor Gorman signed it. The route designated was from some point on Lake Superior by way of St. Paul to the Iowa line in the direction of Dubuque. As will be seen, the proposed route of the Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad Company was identical with that mentioned in the land grant. After alterations and amendments, and charges of fraud both in the territorial legislature and in Congress, the land grant act was repealed by congress. The company, however, contended that congress had no right to appeal the act. The higher courts also upheld the congressional repeal. The matter caused much discussion in succeeding sessions of the legislature, but in 1855 the legislature passed an act to amend the incorporation of the Minnesota & Northwestern Railroad Company over the governor's veto. In 1856 the time for the building of the road was extended, and the extension approved by the governor. The road was chartered May 23, 1857, to build a line from the Iowa state line, somewhere west of section thirteen, via Austin, Mankato, etc., to New Ulm, Minn. In 1858, in a joint session, the legislature confirmed the territorial land grant of 1854, congress in the meantime having made liberal provision for the giving of land grants to such railroads as should build in Minnesota. It was as the Minnesota & Northwestern that the Chicago Great Western line from Hayfield to Omaha was first laid in this county.

THE LAND GRANT ROADS.

An act was approved by the Minnesota territorial legislature May 22, 1857, creating four railroad corporations, and granting them alternate sections, designated by odd numbers, six miles in width on each side of the roads and their branches, this being in accord with the liberal railroad land grant by congress. These four railroad corporations, viz., the Minnesota & Pacific Railroad Company (changed to St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Company); the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley Railroad Company; the Transit Railroad Company (changed to Winona & St. Peter Railroad Company); and the Root River Valley & Southern Minnesota Railroad Company. The first named was created originally by this act. The latter three had already been organized. The companies were to pay three per cent of their gross earnings in lieu of taxes and assessments, and the lands granted by congress were to be exempt from all taxation until sold and conveyanced by the companies. The corporations were generally given ten years to con-

struct their respective roads. The financial embarrassments of 1857 retarded the progress of railroad building; and it also became evident that the parties who had obtained the railway charters mentioned had neither the money or credit to complete these great highways of internal improvements.

The territory of Minnesota was admitted to statehood May 11, 1858. The constitution ratified and adopted October 13, 1857, provided in article 10, section 2, that "no corporations shall be formed under special acts except for municipal purposes"; and it still further provided that "the credit of the state shall never be given nor loaned, in the aid of any individual, association or corporation." Notwithstanding the strong feeling worked up over the talk of getting bonds in the aid of railroads so badly needed in the state, the first act of the legislature, which was approved March 9, 1858, before the state was admitted, was to submit an amendment to the constitution, providing for loaning the state's credit to the four land grant roads to the extent of \$1,250,000 each, or \$5,000,000 in all, provided \$100,000 for every ten miles to be graded, and \$100,000 for every ten miles when the cars were running regularly. In return it required the roads to pledge the net income to pay the interest on the bonds, and to convey the first 240 sections of land from the government grant to the state, and to deposit in first mortgage bonds an amount equal to the loan from the state for security. This proposal occasioned much uneasiness among the most prudent of the citizens in the state; and though public meetings were held denouncing the measure, it was, however, upon being submitted to the people, on the appointed day of a special election, April 15, 1858, carried by a large majority, there being 25,023 in favor to 6,733 against the amendment. The measure afterward became known as the Five Million Loan Bill. The state bonds were of \$1,000 denomination, had twenty-five years to run with interest at seven per cent, the railroad companies to pay the interest, and were to be delivered to the incorporators of the companies when ten miles of the road was graded and ready for the superstructure. Owing to technicalities it was extremely difficult to market these bonds. Times were hard and the companies were unable to pay the required interest.

On the assembling of the legislature in 1860 the interest on the state bonds having been defaulted, an amendment to the constitution was adopted and submitted to the people expunging the section sanctioned and approved by them, April 15, 1858, reserving only the state's rights. The electors of the state at the general election of November 6, 1860, with unanimity, by a vote of 27,023 to 733, approved of the amendment. For two years thereafter railroad matters in the state laid dormant.

CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY.

The Minneapolis & Cedar Valley Railroad Company was chartered March 1, 1856, with a capital stock of \$3,000,000 to construct a railroad from Minneapolis to a point of junction with the Root River Valley & Southern Minnesota Railroad in Dakota county, from one to six miles from Mendota, and thence in a southerly direction via Faribault, through the valley of the Straight river, to the southern boundary line of the territory at the Cedar river. They were also to have the right to build at any time a line from the Mendota Junction to St. Paul; also a like road to Hastings. After the passage of the amendment to the constitution in 1858 a mortgage was executed and bonds issued and deposited with the state, for which the company received \$600,000 state bonds. The company defaulted in the payments. September 1, 1859, the foreclosure was demanded. The trustees advertised and sold the property August 16, 1860, and bid it in for the state. The property, franchise, etc., were conferred March 10, 1862, upon the Minneapolis, Faribault & Cedar Valley Railroad Company. Quite an amount of grading had been done, but no track had been laid.

The Minneapolis, Faribault & Cedar Valley Railroad Company was incorporated by the legislature of Minnesota March 10, 1862. Under this name the state transferred to Alexander James, Sylvester Smith, William H. Dike, Charles A. Wheaton, Franklin Steele, Henry Chapin, Thomas A. Harrington, Eli B. Ames, John M. Gilman, William G. LeDuc and Rufus J. Baldwin all the property, franchises, etc., of the Minneapolis & Cedar Valley Company acquired by foreclosure August 16, 1860, and authorized a reorganization under the original charter. The same rights had been conferred upon Erastus Corning and associates in March, 1861, and upon N. D. Barney et al. in March, 1863, but they failed to comply with the conditions and forfeited them. By an act of the legislature which was approved February 1, 1864, the name was changed to the Minnesota Central Railway Company.

The Minnesota Central Railway Company was named in an act of the legislature, approved February 1, 1864, to take over the franchise and rights of the Minneapolis, Faribault & Cedar Valley Railroad Company. Acts were passed at different times extending the time of completion of the road, also an act authorizing the connection with the Iowa road at the state line. The road was completed from Minneapolis via Mendota to Owatonna, a distance of seventy-one miles, in 1866, and the branch was built from Mendota to St. Paul. September 18, 1866, the capital stock of the road was sold to the McGregor & Western Railroad Company for \$2,000,000, payable in a like amount of the latter company's

stock. All the property except the land grant lands was conveyed June 26, 1867. This sale was practically a consolidation. The corporate existence of the company was continued by virtue of its land stock, and no interest in its lands ever passed to the McGregor & Western Company or its successors. The company was required by the land grant to build from Austin to the state line, but had not done so when it was transferred to the McGregor company. The Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company (which later on, February 7, 1874, became the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul), after acquiring the line of the consolidated company, August 5, 1867, reconveyed to the Minnesota Central Company in April, 1868, that part of the line between Austin and Mona, a distance of eleven miles, to enable it to earn the land grant.

As before stated, the first regular passenger train reached Le Roy from Cresco September 9, 1867. This was an important day for Mower county, and on that day, for the first time, the county had connection by rail with the Atlantic seaboard. In October, 1867, the line was completed from Owatonna to Austin, and for a short time the lines ending at Austin and Le Roy were connected by the stage route of Nichols & Cotter. Later in the month the line was completed from Austin to Le Roy. In the same month a through freight car passed through Austin from New York to Minneapolis, thus bridging by rail the distance from the Atlantic ocean to the head of Mississippi navigation.

Work was also pushed to the southward from Austin to the state line, and trains started running in January, 1870. April, 1870, the Milwaukee & St. Paul road took a deed to the line from Austin to Mona, paying 1,760 shares of common stock and a like amount of preferred stock. In January, 1870, the Illinois Central started running its trains from the state line south in Iowa.

November 3, 1870, the portion of the Iowa Central from the Minnesota state line to Mason City, now owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, was completed, and cars were put in operation. In December, 1871, the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Minnesota Railway tapped this line at Plymouth, in Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, and leased a right of way to Austin, thus practically extending its line to Mower county. A year later the Central Railway of Iowa began running trains from Austin to St. Louis over the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota, via the Iowa Central.

The McGregor and Western Railway Company was organized January 19, 1863, and was authorized to construct a road from or from near McGregor, westward and northwestward in Iowa. Later the charter was modified, allowing the company to construct a line from the state line to Austin, in Minnesota. In 1866 the company purchased the Minnesota Central Railway Company,

and gave in return \$2,000,000 of its bonds. The McGregor company was authorized March 7, 1867, by the Minnesota legislature, to construct a road via Austin, to Owatonna, and to exercise the franchise of the Minnesota Central Railway Company. Articles of incorporation were filed in Minnesota June 8, 1867, and later in the month a deed was taken of the Minnesota Central Company, then built from Minneapolis to Owatonna. The line was immediately transferred to the Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, which February 7, 1874, became the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. The building of the McGregor line is recorded elsewhere in this chapter.

The Root River Valley & Southern Minnesota Railroad was chartered by the territory of Minnesota March 2, 1855. The act to incorporate was passed on the above date by the territorial legislature, and amended February 27, 1857. The charter granted the privilege of covering almost everything in the southern end of the state, provided the eastern terminus remained at Hokah, viz.: "from the village of Hokah, in the county of Houston, and territory of Minnesota, westward by the most feasible and practicable route to some point between the south line of the territory and the point where the township line between 110 and 111 crosses the Minnesota river, thence west by the most direct and practicable route to the great bend of the Missouri river, with the privilege of a branch starting from Hokah and running to the west bank of the Mississippi, via Target Lake to Eagle Bluff in Winona county. Also the privilege of building a branch from some point on the main line east of range 12, west of the fifth principal meridian, and westward through the counties of Mower, Freeborn and Faribault, to the west line of the territory; also the privilege of constructing a ship canal from the main channel of the Mississippi river to Target Lake." May 22, 1857, the territory of the road was extended, and all the land grants applicable to its route duly conferred. This was one of the original land grant roads bought in by the state of Minnesota, which later re-issued its charter and loaned the credit of the state.

The Southern Minnesota Railroad Company was the name taken by the Root River Valley and Southern Minnesota Railroad, May 23, 1857, the day after the land grant was conferred. The company executed a mortgage, issued bonds and deposited them with the state, receiving therefor \$575,000 in state bonds. The company defaulted on the payments April 1, 1860, and the governor advertised and sold the property and conveyed the same to the state. The state conferred the property, etc., on divers occasions to various parties during the years 1861 and 1863, but they failed to comply with the conditions. The rights pertaining to the line through the southern tier of counties were conferred upon

T. B. Stoddard and associates March 4, 1864, under the name of the Southern Minnesota Railroad Company, thus reviving the old title. The company received aid from various municipalities. The road was completed to Rushford in 1867; to Lanesboro in 1868; from Ramsey to Wells in 1869; Lanesboro to Ramsey and from Wells to Winnebago in 1870, making a total of 167½ miles. After various litigation the Southern Minnesota Railway Company was organized under chapter 50 of the laws of 1876.

The Southern Minnesota Railway Company was organized March 3, 1877. The Southern Minnesota Railway Extension Company was also organized. January 1, 1880, the Southern Minnesota, after receiving a deed from the Extension company, deeded its road from the Mississippi river to Sioux Falls, and the branch from Wells and Mankato, to the Milwaukee & St. Paul Company, the latter issuing bonds and taking possession of the road May 1, 1880.

The year 1887 was an eventful one for Austin. The C., M. & St. Paul moved its shops here from Wells, and also built a "Y" from Ramsey so that the trains on the old Southern Minnesota line ran into Austin, thus doing away with the old stage coach that had hitherto done duty between Austin and Ramsey. As a bonus for locating the shops here Austin gave \$10,000 and ten acres of land.

CHICAGO GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD.

The Chicago Great Western Railroad Company, operating what is known as the Corn Belt Route, in 1910 succeeded the Chicago Great Western Railway Company, which operated what was then known as the Maple Leaf Route. The latter company was organized in Illinois January 5, 1892, to effect the reorganization of the Chicago, St. Paul and Kansas City Railway Company, which was an Iowa corporation and had absorbed the Minnesota and Northwestern. The early construction of the route in Minnesota was commenced in 1884 and completed in the summer of 1885, when one hundred and ten miles were built from Minneapolis to the Iowa state line, passing through Mower county, touching points that are now Waltham, Mayville, Austin, Varco and Lyle, and connecting at the latter place with the Illinois Central. The station at Austin was opened July 24, 1885, with O. B. Johnson as first agent. A grand excursion to St. Paul took place August 20, 1885. In the fall of the same year a junction was made with the Iowa Central Railroad at Manley Junction, Iowa. In 1887 the line from Hayfield to Dubuque, Iowa, passing through Mower county and having stations at points that are now Sargeant, Renova, Elkton and Taopi, was completed, as was the line from Chicago to

South Freeport, Illinois. The next year the missing link between Dubuque and South Freeport was completed, thus completing the line from Minneapolis and St. Paul to Chicago. On August 1, 1887, the first passenger train made the run between Chicago and St. Paul in thirteen and one-half hours. This was the inauguration of the fast passenger train service in the West. Under an agreement with the Wisconsin, Minnesota and Pacific Railway Company, the Chicago Great Western operates their lines of 271 miles from Mankato to Red Wing and another from Red Wing to Osage, Iowa, with branches from Winona to Simpson and from Claybank Junction to Claybank. The line from Red Wing to Osage crosses the extreme eastern portion of Mower county, passing into Fillmore county and then curving back into Mower county. In this county it has stations at Racine and LeRoy. The Wisconsin, Minnesota & Pacific Railway Company is a reorganization of one of the early Minnesota companies and was incorporated in Minnesota in April, 1894. This line was started in 1890, the company at that time being the Winona & Southwestern.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD.

The Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad, which is operated by the Illinois Central Railroad Company is a reorganized company holding its franchises by charter granted by the state of Iowa, with the exception of the Albert Lea & Southern Railroad Company, incorporated September 20, 1899, under the general laws of Minnesota. This road, which extended from the Iowa state line to Glenville Junction, thus crossing Mower county from Lyle westward, was consolidated with the Dubuque & Sioux City Railroad Company, July 1, 1902.

Aside from the roads mentioned scores more have at various times been projected, in which Austin people have been interested. But they have not yet reached Mower county, though even to the present day there is talk of another road being put through.

CHAPTER XII.

AGRICULTURE.

Importance of the Farming Interests of Mower County—Character of the Men Who First Came Here—Failure of Wheat Crop—Development of Diversified Farming—Advantages—Mail and Trading Facilities—Nature of the Soil—Sheep and Poultry Breeding—The Pork Industry—Registered Stock Predominant—Homes of the Farmers—Agricultural Societies—Grange Movement—Storm and Flood—Insurance Companies.

Mower county is acknowledged as being among the best and most prosperous agricultural and stock raising counties in Minnesota. Its people are wide awake and keep step with the progressive march of the times in all that pertains to a civilization of happiness, industry and culture. Like all this portion of the Northwest, the agricultural history of Mower county must record some disastrous failures. The whole southern and southwestern portions of Minnesota, as well as the greater part of Iowa, have had serious disadvantages to contend with and obstacles to encounter. The first settlers of the county were mostly farmers, and they were, with but few exceptions, poor men, as is the case in the history of every agricultural region. In fact, few had more than enough to barely get settled upon their lands; but they came with that which was in those days equal to it—training in agricultural pursuits, brawny hands that were able and not ashamed to work, and, in connection with industrious habits, the energy and determination to win success. The country was new, and there was no alternative but that success must be wrought from the soil, which was their only wealth and their only hope. And, in spite of all the obstacles and inconveniences, notwithstanding the fact that the whole aim of the farming community has changed, success has attended their efforts. Nor is the end yet reached, but the county has a mine of wealth yet undeveloped, which, as years roll on, will grow more and more valuable as the agricultural population become more and more able to utilize it.

Early in the development of this country wheat was the main product, and for a number of years excellent crops were raised with scarcely a failure. At the present time wheat has given up its former place to other cereals, and farmers find many other avenues in which to devote their time and energy.

Mower county is in the most southern tier of the counties of Minnesota. Its southern boundary forms a portion of the state

line between the great wheat state of Minnesota and the great corn state of Iowa. It lies in the grain belt and also in the corn belt. It is also the center of the great dairy belt.

Mower county occupies with but few exceptions, all of which are in northern Minnesota, the highest land in the Mississippi valley. The mean elevation above the sea is 1,300 feet, the highest point being in the central and southern portion where the elevation rises to 1,360 feet. The lowest elevation of the county is 1,119 feet, which is 600 feet higher than the Union station at St. Paul. Owing to the gradual rise toward the center, Mower county has perfect drainage, it being one of the few counties of the state without a lake or large pond. Numerous small streams flow through the county, which is blessed with an abundance of good water. Beside the creeks and rivulets, there are innumerable flowing springs, gushing from the earth, many flowing 300,000 gallons a day and some to exceed a million gallons in twenty-four hours.

The high altitude gives to Mower county an ideal climate. Its mean temperature for summer is 70 degrees, the same as middle Illinois, Ohio and southern Pennsylvania. The extreme heat that is felt in these states is here tempered by the breezes of the elevated plateau. Its higher latitude gives two hours more of sunshine than at Cincinnati. This with an abundance of rainfall, 26.36 inches annually, on a rich soil, accounts for the rapid and vigorous growth of crops and their early maturity. There is a uniformity of temperature during the winter season in southern Minnesota, with bright sunshine, dry atmosphere, good sleighing and infrequent thaws that make life a pleasure in this bracing, healthy climate.

The soil is for the most part a deep, rich, warm loam with clay subsoil. There is but little gumbo soil in this county. Cultivation is easy and "irrigation and dry farming" that one hears so much about to-day, and which is so necessary to secure a crop on much of the new lands that are being opened up in the West, at so great an expense, are not needed here. During the past few years a number of farms have been tiled and with such marked success that within a few years most of the farms will be improved in this respect. The lay of the land is such that almost every farmer gets good drainage without difficulty. Two large factories, one manufacturing a cement tile and the other a clay tile, are located at Austin and have a tremendous total output.

Mower county has good roads and in several road districts its roads are as fine as a city's street, thanks to the efficient work of townships good road organizations and to the use of the King split-log drag.

Mower county was the first county in the United States to have a complete rural mail route system installed. This was done

in 1904, and there is hardly a farm in the county that is above half a mile from a rural route. The entire population, aside from the county seat and the villages with postoffices, is served by this excellent system. Each route serves 110 families or an average of 600 people, and each route has an average length of twenty-seven miles. Mower county's rural routes center as follows: Austin, Brownsdale, Dexter, Grand Meadow, Taopi, Rose Creek, Adams, Le Roy, Lyle, Racine, Elkton, Waltham, Sargeant.

Mower county's farms are all within easy access of a market, there not being a farm above seven miles from a village and not above a score are a greater distance from a village than six miles.

Mower county is a great corn country, raising over a million and a half bushels yearly. Mower county is one of the big barley counties of the country, raising a million bushels yearly. Mower county's oat crop exceeds 4,000,000 bushels yearly. Mower county's other big crops are wheat, 200,000 bushels, and potatoes, 400,000 bushels. Mower county also raises the finest of hay on its 73,753 acres of meadow. Mower county is annually shipping thousands of dollars' worth of apples from its 100,000 apple trees. Mower county's plums, picked from 20,000 trees, are of excellent quality and find a ready market. Mower county has two large nurseries, selling home-grown fruit, ornamental and shade trees, guaranteed to be true to name and to grow. Mower county has two farmers' mutual insurance companies, the Mower County Farmers' Mutual Fire and Lightning Company, carrying \$5,250,000 of insurance, and the Austin Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Minnesota, insuring crops from loss by hail all over the state. Mower county has a splendid system of bridge building, a majority of the bridges being of iron and concrete. It is the policy of the county board to replace old bridges with those of iron and concrete. Mower county's all-grain farmers have been moving to the unbroken prairies, leaving their farms here to be taken by progressive diversified farmers of the older states. Mower county is one of the great thoroughbred cattle counties of the state. Mower county farmers find a ready market for their hogs with the Hormel Packing Company, located at Austin, which has a daily capacity of turning 5,000 milk-fed hogs into the famous Dairy Brand hams and bacon. Mower county farmers find a ready market for garden truck in the city of Austin and the villages of the county.

The farms of Mower county are similar to the farms of any other county having a rich soil. It has its good farms and its poor farms. Or better stated, it has its good farmers and its poor farmers. Agriculture, like every other trade or profession, has its successes and its failures, but perhaps not as many complete failures.

The first settlers found here a rich, unbroken virgin soil, a land that had had none but nature's care from time immemorial. Century after century, year after year, the grasses grew in all their richness and the prairie flowers bloomed to waste their fragrance on the summer air. No foot trod the unbroken stretches save that of wild beast or bird, or the red warrior. No plow-share turned the green sod, nor was it torn by the iron tooth of the harrow, from the time an almighty power had unrolled it like a carpet until 1852, when Jacob McQuillan and party drove to this land from Ohio in wagons and nailed their coffee mill to a tree in what is now Racine township. They turned the first sod and sowed "wheat," and wheat was the crop that the land of Mower county raised in abundance until 1878. Then came the wheat failure. For over a quarter of a century the land had let man take crop after crop of the finest cereal from her without putting anything back, and then it protested. Then the farmers tried the next year and the next and hardly got their seed back. Then those who could afford it went further north and west where there were other virgin lands. But some were too poor to go. Some of these turned their attention to other crops and a few to stock raising. But as late as 1884 Mower county had but four creameries. In that year came the discussion of diversified farming for Mower county, but for several years but little was done along that line. Within the last few years the dairy farmer has come upon the scene. Some came from other states and have thriven and grown prosperous on the land which the wheat farmer thought was exhausted. The county has grown prosperous with this change of farming and during the last few years hundreds of up-to-date farmers from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Wisconsin have taken up their abode on Mower county farms. Here they find a rich soil from two to five feet deep, ready for them, a land covered with rich grasses and ready to yield abundance in oats, barley and other small grains, and producing corn that vies with that of the states above mentioned. Here they find land as rich and yielding as heavy crops as the \$150 land they had left and selling at from \$50 to \$80 an acre, because the owners were ready to retire or desired to go to the land of a single crop, wheat. With their coming there is a great increase in the valuation of farm property, farm products and live stock.

With the coming of these farmers from the older states has come farm tiling—open ditches have been used for years but hardly a rod of tile was laid by the all-grain farmers. Now there are thousands of rods being laid each year.

There is at present a strong movement toward sugar beet culture. It has been found that the warm, deep loam of Mower county permits of large development of root. Two large sugar

beet factories, one at Waterloo, Iowa, and the other at Chaska, Minnesota, take all the crop raised.

While Mower county is not a sheep raising county, it is the breeding place of thoroughbreds which are in demand in Montana, Wyoming and Idaho, to which places many find their way. Following are the leading breeds in Mower county: Merinos, Cotswold, Shropshire, Southdowns, Lincoln, Oxfords, Hampshires and Horned Dorsets.

The poultry fanciers are the most numerous of all the thoroughbred raisers. Space forbids mention of all the varieties of poultry that are to be found in this county. At a recent county fair 123 varieties were shown, of which 99 were of the hen, six of the turkey, eleven of the duck and seven of the geese family. Alfred Ziemer, of this city, has a Buff Orpington cock valued at \$1,000, the highest priced bird of the breed in the United States. The Mower County Poultry Association is the largest organization of its kind in the state, and its annual show is larger than any other except those held at St. Paul and Minneapolis. Mower county birds in the last shows in the Twin Cities took more prizes than any other county in the state.

There is one farmer in the county who claims that every domestic animal on his place, from the driving horse to the family cat, is thoroughbred and registered.

Mower county has no state highways of macadam. The roads, which are made of the soil of the county, on the whole are good, and some of them are kept in the best of condition. This county was one of the first in the state to undertake road building, and it is interesting to note that the first bill ordered paid by the first board of county commissioners was a bill presented July 7, 1856, by Louis Patchin, for work as road commissioner.

There was a time in Mower county when like all new lands, the first consideration was to build good barns for the housing of the flocks and herds and the home was the most inconspicuous object in the landscape. As the farmers prospered the log house disappeared and now there are not a half dozen log houses in the entire county. Now the farmers' house vies with the city residence and has many of the modern conveniences. Where electric light and power cannot be secured, gasoline engines furnish power and a number of farm houses are lighted by their own gas plants. By the use of elevated tanks in the house or barn, or pneumatic tanks in cellars, farm houses often have all the sanitary conveniences of a house in town. Our farmers recognize the value of keeping their property in the best of shape. Houses and barns are well painted, lawns are carefully kept and flower gardens show that our people recognize that the things which beautify add a value to life as well as to property.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Mower County Agricultural, Horticultural and Mechanics' Society. On the third of September, 1863, the board of county commissioners, consisting of R. C. Heath, Alanson Beach and G. T. Angell published a call for the organizing of a society of the farmers of the county. Agreeable to this notice a number of prominent citizens of the county met at the postoffice in Austin September 22, 1863. The meeting was called to order by B. F. Jones, upon whose motion J. P. Jones, of Nevada township, was elected chairman. B. F. Jones was elected secretary. After some discussion Ormanzo Allen, Olivar Somers and Sylvester Smith were appointed a committee to draft a constitution for the government of the society.

The following gentlemen were elected first officers of the society: President, Hon. Robert Lyle; vice-presidents, John M. Morrell, Geo. N. Conkey and John M. Wyckoff from the first, second and third districts respectively; recording secretary, B. F. Jones; corresponding secretary, Solomon Snow; directors—Austin, V. P. Lewis; Lyle, S. R. Hughson; Windom, Alonzo Fairbanks; Red Rock, A. D. Brown; Udolpho, Charles Stimson; Nevada, J. P. Jones; Lansing, J. J. Rosenberg; Pleasant Valley, Robert Reed; Grand Meadow, Col. B. F. Langworthy; Racine, Addison Harris; Frankford, N. Goodsell; Bennington, Edwin Angell; Adams, Mathew Rooney; LeRoy, Daniel Caswell. This society held its first fair at the village of Lansing during the second week of October, 1864. It was an acknowledged success.

Mower County Agricultural Society. During the year 1868 the project of organizing a second agricultural society was agitated. On July 31, 1868, a number of prominent citizens met at the brick school house in Austin. J. L. Davidson was chosen chairman, and Lyman A. Sherwood, secretary of the meeting. A committee was appointed, consisting of C. H. Davidson, Capt. A. S. Everest, G. G. Clemmer and Thomas Gibson, to draft a constitution and by-laws.

The following were the first officers elected: President, Andrew D. Brown; secretary, E. C. Door; treasurer, S. Snow; vice-presidents, Sylvester Smith, Austin City; Abe S. Lott, Austin township; Alanson Beach, Lyle; Gunder Halverson, Nevada; Matthew Rooney, Adams; W. B. Spencer, LeRoy; G. T. Angell, Bennington; D. P. Putney, Frankford; W. E. Harris, Racine; B. F. Langworthy, Grand Meadow; Richard Hoppin, Pleasant Valley; James H. Stewart, Red Rock; A. B. Vaughan, Lansing; Thomas Richardson, Udolpho; A. P. Lounsberry, Waltham; John Thompson, Windom. Executive committee—V. P. Lewis, chairman; W. L. Austin, Austin; Thomas Gibson, Lansing; Orlando

Wilder, Lyle; Alanson Wright, Windom; J. M. Wyckoff, LeRoy; Harvey Anderson, Red Rock; D. Chandler, Austin; J. W. Gregg, Nevada; H. M. Irgens, Adams; Capt. J. S. McKnight, Bennington; Chas. Lamb, Frankford; Jonathan Stewart, Racine; O. W. Case, Grand Meadow; Ben. Carll, Udolpho; H. Edward, Waltham.

This society held its first fair on October 14 and 15, 1868.

The present society was organized at the meeting of the Grange council, held October 1, 1874, when it was found that the farming class was anxious to organize an agricultural society, such as existed in many other counties. After the usual preliminaries, the farmers proceeded to organize a society by electing officers both from within and without the Grange. The society was to be called the Mower County Agricultural Society, and its object was the promotion of agriculture, horticulture and the mechanical arts. G. W. Grimshaw was elected president; C. J. Felch, vice president; Miles M. Trowbridge, secretary; H. F. Deming, treasurer. The executive committee consisted of nine members: S. Y. Paddock, M. C. Potter, Merril Mason, N. H. Thompson, William Rutherford, H. Knudson, E. I. Stimson, J. F. Cook and W. L. Austin. The society was incorporated March 31, 1875. The annual county fair is now held at Austin, and the live stock exhibit at the fairs exceeds that of any county fair in the state.

The Mower County Poultry Association is one of the strongest organizations of this nature in the state, and there is not a more enthusiastic class of breeders than the men who form this association. The association holds an annual poultry show which is largely attended. A. W. Edson is president of the association and Alf. A. Ziemer is secretary.

THE WHEAT FAILURE.

In 1877 Mower county farmers reaped the last of the big wheat crops, which for twenty years had made this the land of Eldorado of the settler from the East. The history of this county from the year of the wheat failure in 1878 to the present time is of unusual interest. To give the reader an idea of the time of the failure, we quote the diary of one of the early settlers. "August 19, 1877. To-day I threshed forty acres of wheat, got 1,156 bushels, which went sixty-two pounds to the bushel." August 26, 1878. It has rained almost every day, mud everywhere; have tried to cradle a little wheat for seed, and have saved but little. Am very blue."

"Am very blue" is the epitome of the history of almost every farmer of that section, for not only 1878 but for the next five

years. During these years the farmers tried time and time again to raise wheat as they had for a quarter of a century previous, and each year saw the debt against the farmer growing larger and larger. Many who could do so left the county and went west to the Dakotas. But from the year of the big wheat failure dates the real growth of the county. In the failure of the wheat the farmer was driven to adopt other methods of agriculture, and diversified farming took the place of the one-crop system. The adoption of the new plan was necessarily slow. To the farmer who had in 1876 purchased 160 acres and paid for it with his wheat crop in 1877 diversified farming seemed a long and hard road to the material prosperity of the individual. But there were men who in their younger days were raised in this school and who were quick to see what could be done with the rich early-worked soil, and they became the pioneers of the movement. To-day they are the rich and prosperous farmers of the county. Thirty years ago the county from boundary to boundary line was one great sea of golden wheat. To-day its surface is like a great mosaic of corn, barley, oats, clover, timothy, and pasture blue grass. Herds of pure-bred Shorthorn, Holstein, Jersey, Galloways, Aberdeen-Angus, Hereford, Red Polled, Guernseys, and Ayrshires may be found in all parts of our county, and thousands of pure-bred sheep of Merino, Cotswold, Shropshire, Southdown, Lincoln, Oxford, Hampshire, and Horned Dorset breeds may be found there. The following breeds of horses are raised in the county: Norman, Persian, Clydesdale, French draft and English shires, besides a high grade of coach, draft and trotting horses. Hog raising is a feature of every farm, and the following breeds are found: Berkshire, Poland-China, Chester White, Duroc-Jersey, Suffolk, improved Yorkshires, and small Yorkshires. At the annual fairs of the Mower County Agricultural Society all the above breeds are shown in registered animals. The livestock exhibit is one of the greatest attractions of the fair, and is yearly growing larger. It is not the intention of the writer to mention the individual efforts that have brought about the present prosperity and demonstrated the value of diversified farming. Their work speaks for itself. But we are glad to say that many of those pioneers of diversified farming in Minnesota yet live to see their plans come to fruition and to see those who laughed at them when they entered upon the breeding and raising of registered stock here adopt a similar method in order to keep up with the progress of the age. But the farmer of thirty years ago did not realize these advantages, and if he did, the single crop method was the most advantageous up to the year 1878. Mower county, lying on the boundary line of Iowa, lies within the corn belt and at the same time is within the small grain belt. Corn of as fine

a growth as that of Iowa is raised in great quantities to fatten the droves of hogs to be found on every farm. At Austin, the county seat, is a packing house with a capacity of 2,000 a day, where the highest market price is paid, and which is within easy reach of the farmer with hogs to sell. Oats and barley are the other big crops raised in the county, and there are fourteen trading points besides the city of Austin at which the farmer can dispose of his produce. Reaching from Austin are two telephone systems that ramify every corner of the county and reach over 1,100 farm houses, besides the 950 homes within the city. Mower county was the first county of Minnesota to have installed a complete rural mail route. Three lines of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, three lines of the Chicago Great Western, and one of the Illinois Central traverse the county so that but little land lies as far as ten miles from railroad facilities. These are the changes of a quarter of a century of diversified farming not fully perfected. But Mower county is yet to be known along another line—that of apple raising. It has been sufficiently proven that apples can be raised on her soil. For instance, F. W. Kimball, of Austin, in 1907 shipped his apples to Illinois and netted from his two and a half acres of orchard over \$700, after paying \$148 for barrels, besides the expense of picking and packing. Within the past few years more and more apple trees have been planted by the farmers of the county, and this industry will count among the valuable assets when some future writer twenty-five years hence shall speak of the remarkable prosperity and growth of one of the richest and most representative agricultural counties of the Northwest.

(By C. L. Rice.)

The Grange movement in Mower county has been an important one, and although but two of the original societies remain within the county at the present time, the movement accomplished its purpose in the bettering of farm conditions and the dignifying of the agricultural interests of the county. In 1873 and 1875 the Grangers elected E. H. Wells, of Lansing, to the Minnesota senate, on a Farmers' Alliance ticket, and in several campaigns took an active part in the Anti-Monopolist movement in politics. In addition to this the prices paid by farmers for commodities were lowered by the establishment of Grange stores at various places, and in fact it may truthfully be said that the Grange in this county was the forerunner of the general idea of farmers' co-operation which has resulted in creameries and stores on the community

plan. It also fathered the Mower County Agricultural Society, which has held successful fairs at Austin for so many years.

On March 18, 1873, and in the few months following, nineteen granges were started in this county. They were: Hope Grange, Andrew Peters, master; Pleasant View Grange, George Elliot; Brownsdale Grange, H. E. Tanner; Rose Creek Grange, D. S. B. Mollison; Lyle Grange, R. B. Foster; Union Grange, D. Austin; Enterprise Grange, No. 181, J. C. Hawkins; Frankford Grange, G. Tryer; Prairie Grange, B. F. Langworthy; Cedar River Grange, M. Teeter; Nevada Grange, G. Halverson; Hamilton Grange, E. W. Elder; Cedar Valley Grange, W. J. Merrick; Riverdale Grange, M. M. Trowbridge; Woodlawn Grange, A. K. Vanderwalker; Lausing Grange, L. Hawley; Nevada Union Grange, Sherman Clow. These Granges were very progressive and did a great deal of good for the interests of agriculture, horticulture and animal industry. Many advantages were also received in a social way, as the farming people became better acquainted with each other.

June 30, 1873, a County Grange was organized at the Baptist church in Brownsdale. This was designated the Mower County Council. The meeting was called to order by F. A. Elder, the deputy. B. F. Langworthy was elected chairman and George C. Weed secretary of the temporary organization. Twelve Granges were represented, seventy-five delegates being present. The following officers of the council were elected to serve for one year: Master, J. S. Bowers; overseer, L. E. Pearco; secretary, George C. Weed; chaplain, George Elliot; steward, De Los Tanner; lecturer, F. A. Elder; assistant steward, S. R. Pearco; gate keeper, D. D. Pratt; treasurer, G. W. Grimshaw; Ceres, Mrs. B. F. Langworthy; Flora, Mrs. Bettie Peters; Pomona, Mrs. L. E. Pearco; lady assistant steward, Mrs. A. J. Hunt.

At the meeting of the council held October 1, 1874, it was found that the farming class was anxious to organize an agricultural society, such as existed in many other counties. After the usual preliminaries, the farmers proceeded to organize a society by electing officers both from within and without the Grange. The society was to be called the Mower County Agricultural Society and its object was the promotion of agriculture, horticulture and the mechanical arts. G. W. Grimshaw was elected president; C. J. Felch, vice president; Miles M. Trowbridge, secretary; H. F. Deming, treasurer. The executive committee consisted of nine members: S. Y. Paddock, M. C. Potter, Merrill Mason, N. H. Thompson, William Rutherford, H. Knudson, E. J. Stimson, J. F. Cook and W. L. Austin.

The Agricultural Society continued to live, but after a while the interest in the Grange movement died out. On April 2, 1910,

after many years of inactivity, Enterprise Grange, No. 181, was reorganized as No. 604 by C. B. Hoyt at the Enterprise school-house. The following officers were elected: Master, C. L. Rice; overseer, C. B. Sayles; lecturer, Mrs. C. B. Sayles; steward, E. V. Hart; assistant steward, Arthur Loucks; chaplain, Mrs. C. L. Rice; secretary, F. G. Page; treasurer, H. R. Mills; gate keeper, Con. Downey; Flora, Rosabel Pike; Pomona, Mrs. F. G. Page; Ceres, Mrs. E. B. Loucks; lady assistant steward, Ruth Fraser; organist, Mrs. F. G. Page. The officers were installed by C. B. Hoyt and the members were obligated. At that time Enterprise Grange had a membership of 103. It is now the banner grange of the state. This and Lansing Grange, No. 605, Arthur Parkins, master, are the only ones now in existence in the county.

The grange is considered of great benefit to all patrons of husbandry, agriculturally, educationally, and a great help in co-operative buying in large quantities, greatly to the benefit of the consumer. Educationally and socially it is a great benefit to any community. It was the cause of getting rural free delivery, and long defunct Granges are now rapidly springing into new life on every side. It is surely a great organization to get the producer and consumer together, thus avoiding too many middlemen's profits. It is also against the big combination and trusts. It has subordinate county, state and national Granges which are doing a splendid work.

STORM AND FLOOD OF 1908.

The month of June, 1908, brought to Mower county a series of severe storms that culminated on the afternoon of Saturday, June 20, with the most disastrous one that has ever swept the county within the memory of man. The loss to buildings and to crops was estimated at the time to be about \$750,000, and this was followed on June 22 by a flood at the city that did damage to the amount of many thousands of dollars.

For several days there had been an unusual degree of humidity. On Thursday, June 18, there were cyclonic conditions. That evening, a brilliant electrical storm swept the entire county and several buildings were destroyed by lightning. At 9:30 p. m. a tornado struck the village of Adams, doing damage to the amount of \$2,500. The path of the tornado was four rods wide and extended a quarter of a mile. There were small twisters in Dexter and Sargeant townships. The lightning caused a \$10,000 fire at Sargeant village. The bolt set fire to the Martin Stephenson grain elevator which burned to the ground. The fire extended to the coal sheds, to the Chicago Great Western depot and a freight car was there totally destroyed. Lightning also struck

the steeple of the German Lutheran church in the Seebach district in Dexter, practically destroying it. Several barns were destroyed by fire, caused by lightning, and much live stock was killed.

On the succeeding night, Friday, June 19, another wonderfully brilliant electrical storm swept the county, killing much live stock and burning several barns.

Saturday, June 20, came with an increase of the cyclonic conditions. The morning was warm and the air was filled with moisture. As the day wore on the sultriness increased. Soon after noon the storm clouds again appeared. By 3:15 it was so dark that lamps were lighted in stores and workshops. Just before 4 o'clock a deep black cloud came up from the southwest with an advance line of foaming whitish cloud that reminded one of the surf beating against the shore. Just behind this lighter cloud appeared the sign of the approaching tornado—a copper colored band. The storm cloud caused intense fear and hundreds sought shelter in cellars. The tornado marked cloud veered to the west of the city, but the black cloud that followed passed directly over Austin. A few drops of rain, followed by hail varying from the size of a pea to the size of a walnut, fell. With the hail came a wind storm which lasted forty minutes. The course of the wind in that short space of time changed from the southwest to the north. Houses were racked to the foundation and many were unroofed. Barns and sheds were blown down, trees that had weathered the elements for half a century were torn out by the roots and rolled about as playthings of the storm king. The electric current was turned off from the station, for hundreds of electric light, telephone and telegraph wires were strewn about the streets. Hardly a street was passable and the fire department, street department and half a hundred men were put to work as soon as the storm abated to cut a direct way along the streets of the city. At Evergreen Farm a thousand evergreen trees were destroyed. Great damage was done at beautiful Oakwood cemetery. Some of the heaviest losers by the storm in Austin were: The Hormel Packing Company, which had fine buildings partly unroofed, thousands of dollars worth of sugar and saltpeter spoiled by the rain, which also ruined a large amount of printed labels. Loss about \$15,000. At the county fair grounds the grand stand, fine art building, ladies' building, poultry exhibit hall, besides many of the sheds and barns, were destroyed. The loss there was about \$10,000. The round house and machine shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road were damaged about \$8,000. A. N. Kinsman's green houses were riddled with hail and the wind twisted the frames. His loss was estimated at \$5,000. The two telephone systems

were damaged \$5,000 each. Wind and rain damaged the Grand hotel about \$2,000. Some of the other heavy losses by the storm were Austin Cement Stone Company, building damaged \$3,000; Austin Steam Laundry, \$2,000; George Hirsh, \$1,500; Donovan & Goslee, \$2,000; S. M. Normal College, \$1,000; Franklin school building, \$1,000; Gripman Bros., \$1,000. Twenty-two other buildings, damaged \$200 to \$1,000. Besides this almost every building in the city was damaged to some extent. Lightning struck the steeple of St. Augustine's church and tore out a rock of brown stone weighing 300 pounds.

The loss in the country to buildings and crops ran into hundreds of thousands of dollars. A tornado swept across the township of Udolpho, cutting a path two to three rods wide and extending to Waltham township. Along this line the wind and hail destroyed every blade of the growing crops. The damage at Lansing was light, most of it occurring near the Austin line. The storm at Dexter made the fields look as if they had been plowed. At Grand Meadow the hail storm was so severe that scarcely a pane of glass was left in the windows on the north side of any house in the township or village. Racine escaped with little rain and hail. In Waltham and Sargeant the storm did damage estimated at \$30,000. In Adams village 600 panes of glass were broken by the hail. This township suffered severely in loss of crops, windmills and barns. Lodi suffered heavily from hail. In some parts of the county the hail congealed into jagged chunks of ice as big as a man's fist and hogs and horses were killed in the fields. Trees were stripped of every vestige of bark. There seems to have been several tornadoes connected with the storm, for the ruins left in widely separated townships showed the marks of the twister.

THE FLOOD OF JUNE 22.

On Sunday everybody was out viewing the ruins of the wind storm. There was no thought of more damage to come. Monday morning found the Cedar river rapidly rising and before the day ended the waters had taken out the iron bridge which spanned the Cedar on Bridge street, swept through the Kinsman greenhouses, doing thousands of dollars worth of damage. They flooded the electric light station, shutting down the power and leaving the city in darkness. The Austin gas plant was submerged and damaged \$2,000. The plant of the Austin Weed Exterminator Company was under water and damaged about \$1,000. The water was so high a couple of men rowed a boat into Brown's barber shop which was then located in the basement of the George Hirsh block. There was no way to drive across the

Cedar river as all the bridges were submerged excepting the Chicago Great Western railroad bridge. Practically all work in the city was suspended and the people went out to watch the greatest flood the city had ever seen.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The Mower County Farmers' Fire and Lightning Mutual Insurance Company is a permanent feature in this county. It has 2,499 policies in force at the present time amounting to some \$5,717,758. The company was organized as the Mower County Fire Insurance Company at a meeting held at the court house September 16, 1885. W. D. Medbery was in the chair and R. Eckford acted as clerk. The nine directors elected were: G. L. Case, Robert Eckford, H. W. Lightley, J. J. Furlong, G. Seebach, J. A. Thompson, Daniel Williams, Ole O. Finhart and E. S. Hoppin. The officers were: President, G. L. Case; secretary, R. Eckford; treasurer, E. S. Hoppin. The name was soon changed to the Farmers' Fire and Storm Mutual Insurance Company. Business was commenced December 1, 1885, and one year later 203 policies were in force, covering insurance of \$271,226. In 1891 the name was changed to the Austin Farmers' Fire Insurance Company. Early in 1901 it became the Austin Farmers' Fire and Lightning Insurance Company, and on May 8 of the same year it assumed its present name. The present officers are: President, J. J. Furlong; secretary, A. Hotson; treasurer, C. Proeschel; J. H. DeRemer, Frank Haney, D. L. Tanner, C. L. Schroeder, H. F. Kezar and Nils Anderson.

The Austin Mutual Hail Insurance Company was started in Mankato in 1896 and was moved to various places. Senator Charles F. Cook took hold of the concern some two years ago and moved the headquarters to Austin. This has given it new life, and it is growing rapidly. About one thousand policies are in force and some hundred agents employed. The officers are: President, C. F. Cook; vice president, Andrew French; treasurer, H. L. Banfield.

CHAPTER XIII.

HORTICULTURE.

Importance of Fruit Growing in Mower County—"Experiences of a Veteran Horticulturist," by John C. Hawkins—Fruit Growing in the Early Days—The Minnesota and Mower County Horticultural Societies Organized—Difficulties Encountered in Developing Mower County as a Fruit Growing Section—Persistent Efforts—Oldest Orchard in Mower County—Seedlings Raised Here.

There are no statistics of a more recent date than 1900 which could be secured on which to base an estimate of the number of apple trees growing in Mower county, but a conservative estimate built on the number reported in 1900 and the sales of local nursery men puts the figure well past the two million mark. Apples are yearly shipped out of the county to Illinois and other states. The State Horticultural Society does a splendid work in educating our people and also in the encouragement of fruit growing and the raising of seedlings. Hundreds of horticulturists are now experimenting in the hope of getting a winter apple that will equal the Baldwin in all particulars and exceed it in some, and also win the reward of \$1,000 which the state society offers for such an apple. Good winter apples are now raised, but the state wants an apple that will bring to Minnesota as much fame as its butter has done. Mower county horticulturists are members of the Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society, which meets yearly. The society has over one hundred members, who are enthusiastic in the work.

Some idea of the horticultural resources of our county was given at our county fair held at Austin in September, 1909, when sixty varieties of apples and twenty-three varieties of plums were displayed for premiums. Grapes, pears and peaches were also shown.

John C. Hawkins is one of the veteran enthusiasts in Mower county on the subject of apple and plum growing in this vicinity. For many years he has labored in this cause, and has lived to see his work bear fruit. The following article, entitled "Experiences of a Veteran Horticulturist," has been prepared by him expressly for this history.

What do I know about horticulture from the standpoint of a veteran? Veteran, I suppose, means old and worn out, and in that respect I am able to fill the bill. I might as well state before I begin that "I was borned on the border of the Old Dominion,

right dare among the niggers, but was fotched up among de white folks and know'd some of de fust families berry well." They always wore seedy hats and manifested a general appearance of that sort, talked politics exclusively and knew but little else.

We had no horticultural societies then. They are all creatures of a later growth. Our fruits were all seedlings, and no one supposed that we could improve on nature. We now claim that some of our best fruits have originated from sports widely different from the parent tree. All the "sports" we knew anything about at that time were our fast young men. If one tree happened to bear better fruit than the other, all the boys in the neighborhood knew about it, and the owner must be content with what he could get. Hence he did not care to improve his fruits—not even for the sake of the boys. I was there, and I know.

We used to have glorious times at the apple parings which were held around in the neighborhood, and where each boy paired off with his best girl, or at least tried to. We had no such thing as fruit dryers then. The sun did the business with the assistance of the flies, the bees and the bugs. The fruit was placed upon scaffolds out of doors, or hung on strings about the old fire place. Pumpkins were sliced and strung up in the same manner to dry, and such delicious pies Auntie could make! "Auntie," you understand, was not a real name, but meant par-excellence and denotes the highest degree of honor bestowed upon the darkey cook.

The fruits grown at that time were not very inviting, and consequently there was little market for them; in fact, no one thought of growing fruit for that purpose. I never saw a cultivated strawberry until after I was grown. There were some wild ones growing along a ditch in my father's meadow, and he used to trounce me for tramping down the grass to get a taste of those berries, so is it any wonder that I am such an enthusiastic horticulturist?

I believe it was Massachusetts that first set the ball in motion with such men as Marshall P. Wilder in the lead. What has been the result? Horticultural societies have been formed and extended throughout every state and almost every county in the Union. What are we doing? Experimenting; not blindly, but scientifically in the production of newer and better varieties of fruits and flowers, always holding fast the best until something better is attained. But how has this wonderful result been brought about? Through the means of influence of any particular section or society? No; but through the united efforts of all the societies of all the states combined working together for the common good. This concentrated action in a measure controls

the markets, systematizes the handling, packing and shipping of fruits, and regulates charges, commissions, etc.

Now let us turn to Minnesota as one of those states having a distinct yet undivided interest in common with all the other states. She has been the child of circumstances from her birth, located so far north as to be almost beyond the limits of fruit growing. It has been said, and I believe truthfully, that any country that could not grow its own fruits sufficient for the common wants of the people could never attain to a high state of civilization. Does anyone suppose if all the difficulties that lay in the way could have been foreseen that anyone of these veterans would have been crazy enough to have attempted to form a horticultural society in Minnesota? But necessity knows no law. We must have fruit, and we "went it blind," oftentimes reaching out our hands in error, expecting a prize but receiving only a blank. When I look into the face of experience it reminds me of the chaplain in the Confederate army who prayed most fervently that the Lord would give the soldiers more courage, when a veteran cried out, "We have courage enough already: pray for victuals." Ye veterans who have been fighting so long against such fearful odds, going a little here and a little there, begin now to see the silver lining that skirts the cloud that reflects the light from the opening gates of heaven! But in order to carry out this great work there must be united effort on the part of every horticulturist, and I would especially call your attention to the efficiency of the ladies. Nothing in life stimulates action so much or makes our burdens so light as the sound of a happy voice with the light of a pleasant eye. Those who wish to attend the apple paring should always come in "pairs." Our younger members in all probability will not be required to sacrifice time and means with so little reward as those who have preceded them. The work of the Minnesota society has been well laid out and skillfully managed. We have the State Experimental Farm that is doing a grand work in the interests of horticulture, and then we have auxiliary stations in different parts of the state that make their annual reports to the central head station. All these reports come before this society and are published in its transactions, and in addition runners are sent abroad everywhere to spy out the land and gather in goodly fruits for the benefit of the commonwealth at large.

In regard to myself, I can only say that my pride runs parallel with that of a friend of mine who always boasted of having been born in Boston, and declared if he had to be born again a hundred times he would go straight back to Boston every time. I have no wish to live my time over again, not even to correct

the "mistakes of Moses," but if the mantle of youth could be thrown around me again I should fall in with this society and pitch my tent within some garden of roses.

Small fruits of all kinds can be successfully grown in Mower county. I planted my first fruit trees in 1868, bought of Jordan & Co., Rochester, Minn. They survived a few years—and went to the brush pile. Then I tried Rockford, Ill. They soon went the same way. About this time I joined the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and got acquainted with J. S. Harris, of La Crescent, Minn., who kindly gave me much fatherly advice and direction in planting and care of a young orchard. My neighbors began to take notice and ask questions. Do you expect to grow apples and plums in this cold, bleak climate? "Why, certainly!" "Well, I guess not." But I kept tramping along, leaving my footprints all over this county, so that I am known to everyone as the "Apple Crank and Plum Fool." We finally felt the need of a local organization. So Bro. F. W. Kimbal, of Austin, and Bro. Clarence Wedge, of Albert Lea, got together and organized the Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society. It was a success from the start. Fillmore county came in, then Steele county, and we now have four counties in our territory.

There are hundreds of young orchards in this county just coming into bearing, ranging in size from a few trees to fifteen hundred and two thousand.

Some time ago I visited the oldest orchard in this county, planted by E. D. Ames, of Lyle township in 1857. Mr. Ames said that in 1863 this orchard bore some fruit, in 1864 a fair crop, and has borne every year since with the exception of this last year. A great many varieties died, but there are some "grand old trees" left yet that are producing fine crops every year. I especially noticed two varieties, "Haas" and "Dutchess" are inscribed on their trunks and they are good for another half century.

There are several seedlings originated in this county. E. D. Ames has a fine winter variety. Decker's seedling has been growing between thirty and forty years on the farm of J. S. Decker, just east of the city of Austin. This is a large apple, somewhat in shape and color between Malinda and Northwest Greening. L. W. Prosser has a seedling apple named after himself. It is probably a seedling from the Wealthy. This is a fine apple, medium size, color yellow, ground splashed with red, mild, sub-acid. Some trees are more prepotent than others. The Wealthy is remarkable in this respect. It has produced the Peter, almost identical with itself, and the Evelyn and Perfect have many points in common with it. The Prosser, supposed to be a seedling of it, resembles it in size and color of fruit.

The Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society a few years ago distributed hundreds of seedlings from the Wedge nursery at Albert Lea that will be heard from in the near future.

CHAPTER XIV

COUNTY SCHOOLS

State and County School System—First Schools and First Districts in Mower County—State Aid—Equipment—Literary Societies—Meetings for Officers, Teachers and Pupils—Exhibits and Contests—Institutes and Summer Schools—Parochial Schools—Story of the Districts—Prepared with the Assistance of Miss Grace B. Sherwood.

In the story of American civilization the establishment of the school and the church has been coincident with the building of home.

However, at the formation of the Union, and later, when the federal government was established, there was no definite line of action as to public education, although at the same time that the Constitution was adopted the last session of the Continental Congress was being held in the city of New York, and the Ordinance of 1787 was passed, regulating the affairs pertaining to the Northwest territory, including that portion of Minnesota lying east of the Mississippi river. In this ordinance much attention was given to the question of providing a means of public education, by giving one section in each congressional township for educational purposes. Later, when the purchase of Louisiana was effected, and Minnesota sought admission into the Union, still further provision was made for education by giving two sections in each congressional township for such purposes. This gave impetus to the natural tendency toward educational matters, and we find that one of the first efforts in the new settlements was to prepare to educate the children. The church and the school building, when not one and the same, were practically always found side by side. The hardy pioneers of the Great Northwest—of which Minnesota was a part—did not wait even for a territorial government, but set to work at once to establish schools. The first one in Minnesota, for the education of white children, was organized by Dr. Williamson, at the present site of the city of St. Paul. We are told that investigation demonstrated that there were about thirty-six children in the settle-

ment who might attend a school. A log house, 10x12 feet, covered with bark and chinked with mud, previously used as a blacksmith shop, was secured and converted into a schoolhouse, and taught by Miss Bishop. Here, then, while the United States troops were gaining such signal success in the war with Mexico, was begun the system of education which has become one of the best in this great nation. In this same little schoolhouse, in November, 1849, was held a meeting for the purpose of establishing a system of public education, based upon the congressional act of March, 1849, establishing Minnesota territory. Alexander Ramsey, of Pennsylvania, when appointed governor, proceeded at once to assume the duties of his office. In his first message to the territorial legislature, in the fall of 1849, he emphasized the need of wise measures looking to the establishment of a system of public education in these words: "The subject of education, which has ever been esteemed of first importance in all new American communities, deserves, and, I doubt not, will receive your earliest and most devoted care. From the pressure of other and more immediate wants it is not to be expected that your school system should be very ample, yet it is desirable that whatever is done should be of a character that will readily adapt itself to the growth and increase of the country, and not in future years require a violent change of system."

In response to this appeal for legislation in school matters we find that a committee on education was appointed, and a very able report was made by the chairman, Hon. Martin McLeod. This report was formulated into an act relating to public schools in Minnesota, which act was passed on the last day of the session, November 1, 1849. It organized the territory into districts, of which the township was the unit, and provided that if a township had within its limits five families it should be considered as one district, but if it contained ten families it should be divided into two districts. Tax levy was provided, and a system of management arranged. The first superintendent of common schools for the territory was Rev. E. D. Neill, who served till 1853. His salary was \$100 a year.

The first school instruction in Mower county was given in the pioneer homes by mothers, who, though they had come to a new country, did not wish their children to grow up in ignorance. The public system in the county started in 1856, and in that year many schools and school districts were organized. It is not known definitely where or when the first public school was opened in Mower county, but the school taught by Maria Vaughan, in Austin, in a log house on the north side of what is now Water street, west of the Chicago Great Western tracks, was one of the earliest. This was in 1855. A school was also opened in

Le Roy at about the same time. The first schoolhouse erected in the county was in what is now district No. 4, in Le Roy township. This was built of logs, donated and put up by the citizens on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, township 101, range 14. This land was donated for school purposes by J. M. Wykoff, still a resident of Le Roy, the site of this pioneer school being now a part of the John Frank farm. The old building is still in existence, and is located on the farm occupied by George Klapper. The first teacher in this old schoolhouse was Melissa Allen, daughter of David Allen, and afterward wife of Isaac C. Spencer. The teachers who followed her were N. B. Todd, A. J. Porter, Isaac Smith, Celinda Burnap, Eliza Pierce and Emma Knapp. N. B. Todd, the second teacher, was a brother-in-law of J. M. Wykoff. Probably the only pupil still remaining in this vicinity who attended the session of this early school is Mrs. L. W. Prosser, who lives near Le Roy. Mrs. Prosser is a daughter of W. B. Spencer, who was a prominent pioneer of the early days.

The first three districts organized by the commissioners of Mower county, July 7, 1856, were district number 1, now district number 16, in Frankford township; district number 2, all of what is now Red Rock township, and district number 3, now districts number 35 and 36 in Racine township. District 1 included sections 13, 14, 23, 24, 25 and 26 and the east half of sections 15, 22 and 27 in township 103, range 14. The petition was presented by J. W. Farquair and others. District 2 included all of township 103, range 17, and the petition was presented by John L. Johnson. District 3 included the south half of section 1 and all of sections 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, township 103, range 14. The petition was presented by Louis Chamberlain. March 16, 1856, the county commissioners levied a tax for school purposes equal to one-quarter of one per cent on the amount of the assessment roll as returned in July.

The schools in the common districts are under the immediate supervision of a board of trustees in each district, consisting of three members, the special and independent districts having a board of education, consisting of from five to seven members. The county superintendent has general supervision of the schools in the county. It is her duty to visit each school, advise teachers and school officers in regard to the best methods of instruction, the most approved plans for building, improving and ventilating schoolhouses and ornamenting school grounds; conduct teachers' and officers' meetings and make reports to the state superintendent of public instruction.

The state grants special aid to schools coming up to certain standards of requirements—\$1,750 to high schools, \$600 to graded

schools, \$300 to semi-graded schools, \$150 to first class rural schools, and \$100 to second class rural schools. Mower county at the present time receives special state aid for four high schools, three graded schools, five semi-graded, twenty-seven first class rural and twenty-seven second class rural schools.

Progressive educators hopefully look forward to the time, in the near future, when the country boys and girls will be afforded facilities equal to the best in the cities—when, as a result of consolidation and the establishment of local agricultural graded and high schools, each teacher will not be required to teach more grades than she can handle to best advantage, and the pupils be enabled to secure a good elementary and high school education without leaving home.

There are now 139 organized districts in the county. Of these, four, Austin, Lyle, LeRoy and Grand Meadow, are city schools with first class high schools. Three are graded schools, Adams, Brownsdale and Dexter, each with four teachers. Five are semi-graded, Taopi and Lansing and Waltham, each with two teachers, and Racine and Rose Creek, each with three teachers. The others are one-roomed schools. There are ten districts which are joint with other counties and of these eight have their school-houses out of Mower county. Eleven schools have an enrollment of less than ten pupils and forty-two have an enrollment of from ten to twenty. The largest enrollment is forty-eight pupils, in district 65, in the northern part of Adams, and the smallest is five pupils, in district 6, in the southwestern part of Adams.

During the past year seventeen districts had nine months of school; seventy-one schools, eight months; twenty-two schools, seven months; sixteen schools, six months, and three schools, five months. Most of the short-year school districts have a denominational session a part of the year. Four of the districts have no school in session.

During the year 1909-10 seventy-two pupils received certificates certifying that they had completed eighth grade studies with credit. During the present year some 300 are planning to take the examinations.

Most of the schools are well equipped with those things which are required for efficient work. Many of the schoolhouses are new and the old ones are in an excellent state of repair. In the whole county there are probably not more than six schools that could be called in poor condition. Eighty schools have patented heating plants and fifteen of the rural schools have furnaces, which are well looked after. All but three have libraries. During the present year eighty schools will meet the requirement for state aid in addition to the seven high and graded schools.

The teachers' training schools, which are conducted in the county every other summer, do much to increase the efficiency of the teachers. These schools are paid by the state and are conducted under the direction of the county superintendent and a conductor appointed by the state department of public instruction. Instruction is given in all the branches required for a teacher's certificate. In addition, there are classes in various other subjects. These schools are free and are well attended. It is expected that 225 will be enrolled this year.

There are various literary and debating societies in the schools and the reading circle for the teachers is well patronized. An institute is held every other spring and three teachers' meetings are held annually. A school officers' meeting and a spelling contest are also held each year. The annual graduating exercise were held last year at Dexter, with a picnic, sports and various other profitable and pleasant events. At the county fair each year the exhibits of the children make an excellent showing, a building having been erected for this purpose. Last year 280 prizes were awarded to children between the ages of eight and sixteen for the excellence of their exhibits.

Parochial schools have been conducted in various communities ever since the early days. There are various types of these schools. The Catholics have excellent schools in Austin, Adams and Johnsburg (Adams). In these schools the usual graded and high school subjects are taught, and religious instruction is also given. There is a Norwegian school in section 15, Nevada township, and German schools are located in section 29, Waltham township, section 32, Dexter township and section 13, Pleasant Valley township. In some communities, as has already been noted, the district schoolhouses are used for sectarian instruction when the regular public school is not in session. Schools are held also in several of the churches of the county.

One commercial institution, the Southern Minnesota Normal College, is located at Austin.

In the graded and high schools of the county there are 2,020 pupils enrolled and in the country schools there are 2,899. There are 204 teachers employed. Last year the expense for graded and high schools was \$96,675.97 and the expense for the common schools was \$88,629.50.

Udolpho. The first school in what is now Udolpho township was a select school taught by Eliza A. Wilcox in a part of her father's residence. This was a three months' term in the winter of 1856-57. Eliza also taught a term of district school in the summer of 1857 in the house of Thomas Richardson, in section 16. For her services the teacher received \$2 a week and boarded around. District 49. The first school in this district was kept

in the summer of 1857 in the home of Thomas Richardson, by Eliza A. Wilcox. The district was organized in 1859, and a log schoolhouse was built in section 16. Eliza A. Wilcox was also the first teacher in this house. It was used for school purposes until 1870, when it was replaced by a frame building located on the southeast quarter of section 8. Rosa Carey taught the first school in this building. District 50. The first school in this district was a summer school, in 1857, and Priscilla Miller was the first teacher. The school was held in a log house erected for the purpose by the neighbors, in the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of section 26. This building was used for school purposes until the spring of 1866, when it was replaced by a brick building, erected during the fall of 1865, on the southwest corner of section 24. This building has been replaced with a wooden structure. District 119 joint. This district was organized as district 57 October 9, 1869, and the first school was held that winter at the house of John Tuckerson in section 30, Carlos Manchester being the teacher. School was held in this house until 1872, when a small house was erected in the southeast corner of section 19. Mr. Manchester was also the first teacher in this house. District 60. This district was organized in the winter of 1868 or 1869. A schoolhouse was erected the next spring in the southeast corner of section 2. This was a frame house and the lumber was hauled by team from Red Wing. The first school after the completion of the building was a summer session kept by Mrs. Mary Thuber, wife of E. Thuber, then living in section 10. The schoolhouse was afterward moved to the northeast corner of section 11. District 76. This district was organized in 1869. The first school was held in the house of S. H. Smith in section 33, the teacher being Hattie L. Sanford. School was held in the house of Mr. Smith until 1876, when a new frame house was built in the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of section 28. Hattie Ricker was the first teacher. District 111 joint was organized by the legislature during the session of 1881-82, and the schoolhouse is located just over the Freeborn county line in Neury township. Myra Maxwell was the first teacher, the first session being the summer term of 1882. District 70 and district 79 joint. The first school in this district was held in the dwelling house of John Torkelson, in 1868-69. Carlos Manchester was the teacher. In 1870 a schoolhouse was built on the old Knut Thompson place. Carlos Manchester was also teacher here. That school was maintained until 1888. In 1889 there was a division, and each district erected a new schoolhouse. The first teacher in the new schoolhouse in district 79 joint was Gertrude M. Carll, of Udolpho. The above facts were gathered by John T. Aldal.

Lansing. District 43. The first school in Lansing township was a summer school held in 1858, by Ann Mathieson, in a small house built for a residence by John Pettibone, in section 11. The first schoolhouse was a frame building erected in the fall of 1858, on the northeast corner of section 11. The first term was taught that winter by George Wood. The material for this was native lumber sawed at the steam mill at Lansing. The district failed to pay for the lumber and the house reverted to the parties who furnished it. It was sold to Mrs. C. S. Rolph. In 1866 a brick building was erected, in the southwest corner of section 2. The first school in this house was a winter term taught by John E. Robinson. In the fall of 1871 a frame addition was built. District 43 embraces the village of Lansing. District 44, Ramsey village. The first school in this district was a small log house situated in the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 27. The first school was kept by Charles Oaks, in the winter of 1857-58. The old log house was used for school purposes until the summer of 1866, when a brick building was erected. This house was located near the section line on the east side of section 22. The first school in this house was kept by Romanda S. Carpenter. In 1909 a modern brick building was erected. This is one of the best rural schools in the state, equipped with all the latest improvements. Alice McCarthy was the first teacher. In 1910, Mrs. Addie Cook, who owns one of the largest farms in the district, presented the school with a piano. District 45. This district was organized in 1858, and a log house was built, gratuitously, by the neighbors. The first school was taught by a Miss Richardson in the summer of 1858. This house was used as a school until 1868, when a frame house was built. Ella J. Cook was the first teacher in this building. District 101. A frame schoolhouse was erected in section 13 in the fall of 1876, with Patrick Gilroy as teacher. District 122 was organized in 1893, and a schoolhouse built the same year in section 20. Paula Brown was the first teacher. District 72, joint. This school is located in Corning village, section 6.

Austin. District 27. This district embraces the city of Austin. The first school in Austin township outside the limits of the city was taught in the winter of 1857, in the building of Robert Autis. District 26. The first school in this district was taught in the house of M. J. Woodson by his son Henry in the summer of 1858, the young man receiving \$10 a month for his services. James Johnson taught the second term of school in the same house. In 1859 a log house was erected on the northeast quarter of section 10. George and Oliver Beemis gave the logs which were cut and drawn to the spot by M. J. and W. A. Woodson and H. Van Winkle. Abbie Litchfield, now Mrs. Eu-

gene Crane, of Minneapolis, was the first teacher in this house. George Emery was the first teacher in the frame house built on the southwest corner of section 11. District 28. This district was originated at a meeting held at the house of D. L. Chandler in the winter of 1856-57. Welcome Osborne, D. L. Chandler and George Phelps were the first officers in this district. In the summer of 1857 a log schoolhouse was built on the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 32. Delang Richardson was the first teacher in this house, which was in use five years. Then a house was built in the southwest corner of section 28. Mary Hoag was the first teacher. District 29, Varco Station. The first schoolhouse in this district was erected in 1857, at a "bee" of the neighbors, being built from logs. Money was raised by subscription to complete the building. Delang Richardson was the first to teach in this house. The building was located in the southeast corner of section 23. In 1864 the building was burned and a stone house was erected on the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 25. Forest Marsh was the first teacher. In 1879 this building was torn down and a frame building was erected. Mary Hood was the first teacher in this house. District 55. The first school in this district was taught by Elizabeth Stone, in a claim shanty located on the southwest corner of section 8. This was in 1865. In 1869 a frame building was erected on the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 17, Mary Scullen being the first teacher. District 128 has a schoolhouse in the eastern half of section 21. The house was built in 1900 and Pearl Bowers was the first teacher.

Lyle. District 13. The first school in this district, as well as the first taught in the town, was in session during the summer of 1856, taught by Maria Vaughan, in a log house built by one Pinkerton on the northeast quarter of section 32. Zillah Beach afterward taught in Lorenzo Moshier's house, on the northwest quarter of section 29. Thomas Parker was an early teacher here. Rev. Samuel Loomis taught in Samuel Surface's house. In 1860 the district purchased a frame building in Otranto and moved it to the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 23. T. J. Locke, C. R. Houston, Erwin Lyle and Dora Clappsaddle were early teachers in that house, which was in use until 1874. In this year was built a house in the northeast quarter of section 32. S. Anna McCune was the first to teach in this house. In the spring of 1908 this building was burned and was replaced by a modern frame building on the same site. The first teacher in this building was Dora Drewes. District 12. About the year 1859 the first school was taught in this district by Rev. Samuel Loomis in a log house standing in section 3. Not

long after this a schoolhouse was built through the united efforts of the people. James Foster furnished poplar logs for the body of the house. C. H. Huntington furnished the burr oak logs for the foundation. The men of the district cut down trees and erected the building. A new house was erected on the same site about 1879. Al. Hicock was the first teacher in this house. District 14. A log house situated on the southeast quarter of section 5 and formerly owned by John Tiftt, housed the first school in the district. School was kept here four terms, beginning in 1856, with Nellie Hawkins as first instructor. In 1870 a frame building was erected for the school on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 5. The first who taught in this house was Amelia Houghton, afterward Mrs. M. B. Slocum. The building was later removed to the southeast quarter of section 5. District 15. The first school in this district was taught by Thomas Parker in a log house on the property of Joseph Thompson in the southeast corner of section 27. This was replaced in 1867 by a frame building in the northeast quarter of section 34. The first teacher in this was a Miss Carpenter from Michigan. Five years later in 1872 a larger house was erected on the same site. J. W. Weiser was the first teacher in this building. This building was destroyed by cyclone and replaced with a frame edifice. A beautiful surrounding grove was also destroyed by the storm. District 70. This district was organized in 1867 and the first school taught by Emma Smith, in a small frame house on the northeast quarter of section 19. In 1874 a larger building was erected on the old site. District 54. This district was organized in 1867 and the first house was built of logs on the southwest quarter of section 12, the first teacher being Cynthia Addington. In 1881 a good frame house was erected on the southwest quarter of section 13. Nina Bisbit was the first teacher in this house. District 57. This school is located in the southeast quarter of section 15. District 57, according to W. G. Pace, was organized August 17, 1892, and a schoolhouse built the same fall on the west side of the southeast quarter of section 15. Araminta W. Heseman was the first teacher. District 90. This district has a fine school in the village of Lyle. Excellent work has been done in manual training and agriculture in addition to the usual school duties. The schoolhouse is a well-equipped building of brick and nine teachers are employed. A history of this district is given in connection with the history of the village of Lyle.

Waltham. District 58. Waltham village. This district was organized in 1866 and a frame house erected on the northwest corner of section 15. The first school was a winter term in 1868. Dorothy Johnson Walker was the first teacher. The school is

now housed in a two-roomed frame building, one of the best equipped in the county. The pupils have a reputation for winning more prizes in industrial and educational contests than any other school in this part of the state. District 61. This district was organized in 1866. The first school was a summer term in 1867, taught by Emma Hoy, in a schoolhouse completed that year, located on the northwest corner of section 27. District 89. This district was organized in the fall of 1874. A frame house was erected during the summer of the following year on the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 35. The first school was the winter term of 1875-76 and was taught by J. L. Dole, substituting for his daughter Addie, who after being engaged to teach was taken ill. The schoolhouse is now located in the southwest quarter of section 26. District 93. This was organized in the fall of 1875 and the following spring a frame schoolhouse was built on the northeast corner of section 30. The first school was taught by Belle Leighton. District 110 was organized in 1881 and the first school kept by Flossie Brown, a frame house having been erected, in the southeast corner of section 6. District 124 has a school in the southeast quarter of section 1. According to John P. Johnson, the district was organized in 1893 and a schoolhouse built the same year on the present site. Nora O. Chandler was the first teacher. In 1910 the foundation was raised and laid with cement blocks, a new floor was put in and a Smith heating and ventilation system installed. District 126 has a schoolhouse in the north half of section 23. This district was organized in 1897. The schoolhouse was brought from district 107 and moved west to its present location.

Red Rock. District 38, Brownsdale village. This district was organized in 1856 and a schoolhouse built that year. The first teacher was Sarah Ticknor. This house was burned in 1858, but immediately rebuilt. This house in turn was burned in 1871 and at once replaced by a fine building. The village now has a four-room schoolhouse set in a beautiful grove. It became a graded school last year and is well equipped for excellent work. District 37. The first school taught in this district was a select one under the management of Mrs. Angeline A. Tanner, in the summer of 1859 at the house of Elder Milo Farril in section 13. The first district school was in the winter of 1860-61, held in the log granary of E. E. Tanner in section 12. In 1862 a frame house was erected in section 11. The first school in this house was taught by S. P. Stewart. District 39 was organized in the summer of 1858 and a two months' term of school taught by Tina Perry in the Redbush house in section 5, sessions being held in the homes of the district until 1864, when a frame house was

built. The school was erected in section 5. The first school in this house was under the management of Eliza A. Simes. District 41. The first school in this district was in the summer of 1863, kept by Emma Hoy in a small house in section 33. The following summer the neighbors erected a temporary building of poles set in the ground and board up in section 34. The first school in this building was kept by Mary Lynch. This district was organized in 1865 and a frame house erected in section 34 the following summer. The first school in this house was also kept by Emma Hoy. District 42. The first school in this district was the summer term of 1865 in a board shanty erected for the purpose by the district and located in section 23. Susan Bacon was the first teacher. In the fall of 1866, the district erected a schoolhouse on the site of the shanty and Mrs. Sarah E. Brown was the first teacher. In the fall of 1876 the building was removed to section 24. District 68. In 1869 an effort was made to organize this district, but owing to some irregularities nothing further was done until 1876, when the district was fully organized and a frame house erected in time for the summer term, which was taught by Lyle Lynch. The school is located in section 29. District 115. This district was organized in 1878 and a frame schoolhouse erected the following spring on the southwest corner of section 35. The first school in this house was taught by Mary Hathaway, who later became Mrs. Edward Slocum. District 116 was organized by the legislature of 1881, and the first school was taught that spring by Mary Rugg. The school is in the northwest corner of section 23.

Windom. District 40. This district was originally a part of district 23. The first school was taught in the spring of 1857 by Jane Reeves in a board shanty in section 6, owned by Henry Fero. In the fall of that year a log schoolhouse was erected in the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of section 6. This was the first building erected for educational purposes in the township. Maria Slocum was the first teacher in this building. In 1867 the district was divided, and district 40 assumed its present number. Lumber was purchased for a schoolhouse, but for a time school was taught in a temporary shanty erected on the northeast corner of section 6. Maggie Smith, now Mrs. Manchester, of Minneapolis, taught the first term there. Soon after a frame building was erected on the same site, and Amelia Houghton was the first teacher. District 23 originally included the present district 40. After the separation, in 1867, a temporary building was erected in the southwestern part of the northwest quarter of section 7. Amanda Streavor taught the first term in this building. In 1868 a frame house was built. Rebecca Otis taught the first school in this building. District 24 was organized in

1857. The first school was taught by Mrs. Horatio Marsh in her home. Mary Slaven completed the term. The following year a schoolhouse was erected on the north half of the southeast quarter of section 20, by subscription. Kate Bailey was the first teacher in the house. In 1868 a frame house was erected on the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, with Agnes Hull as the first teacher. District 88 originally included district 25, which now embraces Rose Creek village. The district was organized as No. 25, in 1859, and the first school was taught in Patrick O'Maley's house, with Sarah Slaven as first teacher. School was afterward taught in Michael Slaven's house. In 1864 a log house was erected on the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 23, in which Rosetta Fuller taught the first term of school. In 1874 the district was divided, and the south half, now Rose Creek village, retained the old number. In 1876 a frame house was erected in the south part of section 13. District 25. After Rose Creek was designated as district 25, in 1874, and the remainder of the district set off as No. 88, a frame house was erected in the village and Mary J. Gregory taught the first term. In the summer of 1908 a four-room brick building was erected in Rose Creek, modern in every respect. District 22. This district was organized in 1865 and a frame house erected on the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 10, in which Melinda Brown taught the first school. Roswell Slocum donated half an acre for the schoolhouse site. The lumber was drawn from Winona, Obadiah Smith erecting the building. District 46 was organized in 1869. During the following year a board shanty was erected on the southwest corner of section 32. The first term of school was taught in that building by Maggie Smith. In 1874 a frame house was erected on the same site. James Woodard was the first teacher in this house. District 73 was organized in 1869. The first building was a cheap structure erected on the southwest corner of section 14. Alice French was the first teacher. In 1876 a good building was erected on the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 22, in which Newell Slocum was the first teacher. District 82. The first school in this district was taught in 1867 by Maggie Smith in a house erected by Thomas Smith in the northeast quarter of section 12. After three weeks a frame house was erected on the southeast corner of section 1, in which Addie Fairbanks was the first teacher. District 123. This district was organized and a schoolhouse erected in 1893. Olive Savage was the first teacher.

Nevada. District 9. In 1857 the scholars living within the present limits attended a school taught by Osroe Peterson in the home of Hans Swenson. School was taught in other private houses until the winter of 1865-66, when a log schoolhouse was

built on the northeast corner of section 31, the money being raised by subscription. Afterward a tax was levied and the money refunded. Christiana Ooby was the first teacher in this house. In 1882 a frame house was erected a few rods west of the old site. District 11. The first school in this district was held in a board shanty owned by James Gerard, located in section 21. The next term was taught by Belinda Robinson in a claim shanty in section 22. The first schoolhouse in the town and district was built in 1858, on the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 28, Martin Hanson having given one acre for school purposes. In 1872 a new house was erected on the old site. The first teacher in this house was Nels Kalkon. District 10. The first school in this district was taught by Sarah Austin in 1858, in a claim shanty belonging to Gregg & Austin. In 1860 a log house was erected for school purposes in the southeast corner of section 7. Delang Richardson was the first teacher. Later a frame house was erected, and S. Clow was the first teacher. District 87. This district was organized in 1870 and a schoolhouse erected the following year in the southeast quarter of section 23. Mary Gregg was the first teacher. District 104 was organized in 1878 and a frame house erected that same year, in the southwest corner of section 3. The first teacher was Minda H. Ruland. District 56. A frame schoolhouse was erected in this district in 1865 and the first school was taught the following year. The house is located in the southwest corner of section 1.

Sargeant. District 91. The first schoolhouse built in the town was in this district, in 1875, in the northeast corner of section 15. In the summer of that year Eliza W. Sargent taught the first school. A Norwegian school was started in the same house, with Knud Arhns as the first teacher. The schoolhouse is located in the southern half of section 2. District 111 was organized in 1879. A schoolhouse was built that year on the northeast quarter of section 26. Ella King was the first teacher. District 113 was organized in 1880, and a schoolhouse built on the southwest quarter of section 9. The first school was taught by T. H. Rounds. District 107. The schoolhouse in this district was completed in 1880, and was located just over the line in section 13, Waltham township. This is the village school of Sargeant. District 114. The schoolhouse in this district is located in the northeast quarter of section 32.

Dexter. District 78. The first school in this district was the first in the town of Dexter, and was taught by Mrs. G. W. Bowles, at her home in a log house at the northeast quarter of section 33, in 1868. A schoolhouse was built the following year on the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 27. Dis-

trict 108 was organized in 1877. The schoolhouse was built the same year on the northwest quarter of section 36. The first teacher was Jennie L. Schryver. District 106 was organized in 1877, and a schoolhouse erected in 1878 in the southwest quarter of section 29, Jennie Fairbanks being the first teacher. District 98 was organized in 1873 and the first school taught that year in the home of Nelson Huntington, by his daughter Mary, with a single pupil, her sister Rose. Later the territory of this district was attached to Dexter village. In 1877 the district was set apart and a schoolhouse built on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 2. Andrew Quinn and Cora Chadbourne were two of the earliest teachers in this building. District 86. Dexter village. This district was organized in 1874. The first school was a temporary building, put up that year. School was taught in the winter of 1874-75 by Jesse King. In 1877 a new building was erected. At present there is a modern four-room school, well equipped in every respect. District 121. The schoolhouse is located in the southwest quarter of section 16. This district, according to William Newbauer, was organized February 4, 1889, and a schoolhouse built the same year on the present site. The first teacher was Mary Siegel. District 125. The pupils of this district attend school in a schoolhouse on the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 11. According to G. B. Harvey the district was organized about 1895, and the schoolhouse erected the same year. Ethel H. Wilsie was the first teacher. District 129. This district has a school in the southwest quarter of section 5. It is the youngest of all the Mower county school districts, and was organized July 12, 1905, under the good offices of W. L. Lewis, D. L. Tanner, F. E. Hambrecht, J. Johnson and William Christie. A schoolhouse was built the same year, and Anna Hanson was the first teacher. W. M. Phillips was the first clerk.

Marshall. District 65 was organized in 1867. The first term of school was taught in Helga Errickson's house, by Rosella Bourgard. The school was built in the southeast quarter of section 35. In 1879 it was moved to the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 25. Ida Waite was the first teacher after the removal. District 81 was organized about the year 1876, when a frame house was erected in section 2. School was first taught in 1878 by Ida Waite. This is the village school of Elkton. District 105 was organized in 1879 and a schoolhouse erected in the northwest corner of section 34, the first school being taught by Annie Christopherson. District 103. This district was organized September 20, 1879. A house was erected that fall in the southeast corner of section 17, and the first term was taught by George Emery in the winter of 1879-80.

District 120. The school in this district is located on the north-east corner of section 9. According to C. E. Thompson the district was organized in 1888 and the schoolhouse built that fall.

Adams. District 6. This district was organized in 1858 and a small schoolhouse was erected of logs and covered with hay. The building was located in section 29. The term of school in this house was taught in the winter of 1858-59 by R. M. Rooney. The house was burned by a prairie fire the following summer. Another log house was erected on the site of the old one, and in this Mr. Rooney was also the first teacher. This building was likewise burned and a good substantial frame was erected one-half mile south of the old one in section 32. The first teacher in this house was Nils Nason. District 7 was organized in 1858. A schoolhouse was located in section 8. The house is now located in section 9. District 8 is the village school of Adams. It was organized in 1858, and a schoolhouse was erected in section 11 in 1873. At present there is a four-room graded school. District 71. This district was organized in 1871, and the first school was held the same year at the house of John Fagans, Robert Carter being the teacher. In 1872 a frame schoolhouse was erected on section 25. The first teacher in this house was Lizzie Boding. The present building is in section 26. District 72 was organized in 1871 and the first schoolhouse was built in section 22. Catherine Madden taught the first school. The school is now located in section 27.

Pleasant Valley. The first school in this township was taught by Carolina Hoag in the summer of 1858. The sessions were held in a small cabin, twelve by twelve, and eight feet high. This house stood on runners and during winters was used as a preemption shanty, remaining on one claim long enough for the occupant to "prove up," and then being hauled by an ox team to another claim. In summers it was generally stationed on sections 11 or 12 and devoted to school purposes. Later it was converted into a wood shed. District 47. In the winter of 1860, before the organization of this district, a school was taught within its limits in the house of John Rowley. The first teacher was Alden Douglas. The district was organized in 1862. A schoolhouse was built the following season on the northern part of section 29. The first teacher here was C. D. Douglas. District 48 was organized in 1863. Two early terms were taught in the house of E. B. Blakelee by Alden Douglas. The schoolhouse was built in 1864 in the southwest part of section 15. Mary Hoag taught the first school. The present house is about half a mile north of the old site. District 51. The first school in this district was taught in 1861, by Mary Hoag, in Robert Reed's milkhouse. The organization was in 1865, and a building

was erected in 1867, in the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 8. The first teacher was Alice Sargent. District 62. A school was taught in Dan. William's house in this district in 1865. The district was organized March 30, 1867, and the schoolhouse built the same year, in the southeast quarter of section 11. In 1909 a new schoolhouse was built a mile south of this site. District 75. The first school in this district was taught by Artemisia Way. The district was organized in 1869 and a frame building erected in section 32. The first teacher was Hattie Hoppin. District 94. The first school in this district was erected in 1874 on the northeast quarter of section 35, but was afterward moved a mile west to where it now stands. Alba G. Paddock was the first teacher.

Grand Meadow. The schools in this township are located as follows: District 112, northeast quarter, section 7; District 53, southwest quarter of section 10; District 26, northwest quarter of section 12; District 21, south half of section 35; District 77, village of Grand Meadow, section 22; District 69, southeast quarter of section 29. District 20, according to G. J. Gilbertson, was organized May 1, 1868, with A. O. Finhart as treasurer, O. W. Case as clerk and B. F. Langworthy as director. A new schoolhouse was built in 1884, replacing the one erected when the district was organized. Later a belfry was added and a fine bell purchased. The building is equipped with the Smith heating and ventilating system, a good supply of slate blackboards and a sanitary water fountain. A first grade teacher has been employed for the past ten years, and the school is doing excellent work. District 21, according to C. A. Grimm, was organized some forty-three years ago. The records have all been lost, and the memory of the old inhabitants is vague on the subject. District 53 is also one of the old districts of the county. James Joyce has interviewed a number of old settlers on the subject, among them being Patrick Conlon and wife, who came here in 1860, and according to the information which he has gathered, there was a sod or sod and log schoolhouse in this district in the earliest times, and a Miss Anker was the first teacher. All records have been lost. June 3, 1873, a half acre in the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 9 was deeded to the district, and in 1897 the schoolhouse was moved from that location to the present site on the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 10. District 69, according to Fred Dickens, was organized in 1869, and a house built that year on the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 29. In 1879 it was moved to the southwest corner of the Northeast quarter of section 29. In 1890 a new schoolhouse was built across the street, in the northwest corner of the southeast quarter of

section 29. The first teacher in the district was Ella Austin. Her father, Gus Austin, built the first schoolhouse. The records of the early days in the district has not been kept. District 77 is treated at length in the history of the village of Grand Meadow.

Clayton. The first school in Clayton township was a summer term kept at the house of W. S. Root in 1872, by Mina Hanna. District 74. This district had the first schoolhouse in the township. It was erected on the southwest quarter of section 28, and the first teacher was Henrietta Bevier. The house is now located on the southeast corner of section 28. District 83. A schoolhouse was erected in this district in the northwest corner of section 32 in 1876. Miss D. K. Lee was the first teacher in this building. The present site is one-half a mile north. District 109. The first teacher in this district was G. G. Dallen, and the building is located in the south half of section 11. District 117. The schoolhouse in this district is in the west half of section 25. It was built in March, 1885, and three months' school held before it was finished. It was then plastered and seats put in, so that school was held that winter. The first teacher was Delia McDonnough. District 127. The pupils in this district attend school in the northwest quarter of section 8. The district was organized January 4, 1900, and Sarah Scanlan was the first teacher.

Lodi. District 67. The school in this district was the first in the township, and was built in 1868 on section 14, the first teacher being Nettie Spencer. This house was burned by a prairie fire in 1871. A new schoolhouse was erected in the same section about 80 rods from the old site. Mary Gregory taught the first term of school in the new building. The modern schoolhouse now standing is equipped with the only school hot water heating plant in the county. District 96 was provided with a schoolhouse in 1876, located on section 29. A Miss Haley taught the first school. Prior to this, however, a school had been held at the home of John Hubbard by Maggie Carr. The district was organized in 1865 through the efforts of John Hubbard, who gave one-half acre of ground for a building site. District 80. A school was erected in this district on section 26 some time before the organization of the district in 1877. Etta Bevier was the first teacher. In 1909 a modern building was erected on the old site. District 100 was organized in 1877 and a schoolhouse built on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 7. Ella Smith was the first teacher in the house. A modern building now occupies the site. District 99 is the village school of Taopi and was organized in 1878. The first school in the village was taught in the winter of 1877-78, in a private house. In 1880 a frame schoolhouse was built in the village, the first teacher therein being Ida Wells. A two-roomed building has since been erected.

Racine. The first school in this township was built in 1856. Rev. Thomas J. Lake was an early teacher. Old district 3, which included the present districts 35 and 36, was organized July 7, 1856. The schoolhouses in Racine are located as follows: District 30, southwest quarter of section 11; District 31, southeast quarter of section 7; District 32, southeast quarter of section 19; District 33, west half of section 27; District 34, village of Racine; District 36, southeast quarter of section 5; District 64, southeast quarter of section 6; District 66, south half of section 34. District 30. The records of this district have been lost. The old schoolhouse stood on the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of section 11. In 1892 a new house was built on the southeast corner of the same quarter. The first teacher in the new building was Jennie Kelly. For this information the publishers are indebted to Aug. Buckholz. District 31, like so many of the districts, has not preserved its early records. According to H. O. Lewis, a schoolhouse was built in section 7 in 1863 and was burned in September, 1905. It was rebuilt the same fall on the old site. District 32 was organized in 1867. William Brown, clerk for fifteen years, says: "The schoolhouse was built in 1868 and still stands on the same spot, although it has been raised and shingled. The early records were burned when Henry Schroeder's house was destroyed. We cannot find whether school was taught in 1868, but we think not. Alden Douglas taught in 1869-70. Frank Glover, now of Racine, taught the school in 1871. We came in 1868, but lived in section 8, Pleasant Valley, and did not move to section 24 until 1870." District 33, according to L. H. Eastman, was organized about 1860, and the schoolhouse erected the same year on the southwest corner of the south sixty of the northwest quarter of section 27. Miss Quigley was the first teacher. In 1884 a new schoolhouse was built on the corner of the north half of the southwest quarter of section 27. District 34 is treated elsewhere. District 36, according to John Hovda and Arne Anderson, was organized in 1857 and Mrs. Henry Moore was the first teacher, the board consisting of Ola Finhart, Sr., Hans Anderson and a Mr. Conkins. For two years school was taught in a farm house. In 1859 a log schoolhouse was built on the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of section 5, once Frankford, now Racine. A Miss Connor was the first teacher in this schoolhouse. This was truly a pioneer school, the seats being hewn out of logs. The funds were derived from local subscription. Until 1883 district 36 was three miles square. In that year the district was divided and District 64 set off. The school in section 36 stands on the southeast corner of section 5. District 64 was a part of District 36, as above. After the division in 1883 a schoolhouse was erected in section 6 in 1884, and here school has since been held. District 66 was organized in

1869 and the schoolhouse was built the same year in the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 34. The first teacher was Mrs. S. B. Gove. In 1900 the schoolhouse was rebuilt on the same site.

Frankford. District 16. This district was originally organized as District 1 and was the first district in the county. The first school taught in Frankford township was in a room over Francis Tebout's store in the village of Frankford in 1856. Miss Cunningham was the first teacher. The first schoolhouse built in this district was in 1867, in section 24. It was built of stone. The first teacher was N. W. Boyes. District 17. The first permanent school in this district was built in 1873, on section 36, and G. A. Elder taught the first school in this building. Prior to this time a temporary board shanty 12x14, costing \$25, was used. The first teacher was Mrs. Lamberton, who taught three months at \$25 a month. District 19. The first school in this district was taught by W. F. Grummings, in 1857, in a log house built by Bothomel Canady, on the northwest quarter of section 22. In 1870 the district erected a frame building on the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 21. District 35. The first schoolhouse in this district was erected of logs in 1856, and was located on the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 11. The first teacher was either Frank Johnson or John Fell. In 1877 the log house was torn down and a new building erected. District 84. The first schoolhouse in this district was erected in 1877 in the northwest corner of section 34. The first teacher was Lyda Goodsell. District 97. This district was organized in 1876. The first teacher was A. S. Woodworth. The house is located in the southeast quarter of section 31.

Bennington. District 3. The first school in this township was taught by Mary McKinney. A schoolhouse was erected about 1860 in the southeast quarter of section 30. A new modern building occupies the old site. District 85. A schoolhouse was built in this district in 1874 and the first teacher was Clara Mehurin. District 18. The schoolhouse in this district was erected in 1875 on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 12. The schoolhouse is now located one-half mile west of the old site. District 92. The schoolhouse in this district was built in 1875 on the southwest quarter of section 25. The first teacher was Katie Mehurin. District 95. The schoolhouse in this district was built in 1876, on the southwest quarter of section 8. The house is on the northwest corner of section 9. District 102. A schoolhouse was erected in 1877 on the northwest quarter of section 34. The first teacher was N. O. Borswold. District 118. The school in this district is located in the west half of section 17.

Le Roy. District 4. The early history of this district has

already been related. In 1871 the present site was selected and a building erected on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 31. Around the schoolhouse in this district there still cling fond recollections of pioneer days. Here the Methodist Episcopal class was organized, and here the first revival meeting was held by Rev. Norton. Then there were the debating society gatherings and many other public meetings of much importance in the social and political life of the early days. District 1 had its first school within its present limits at the home of Henry Meyers in the summer of 1866. The school was taught by Adaline Gates. The next season Emma Klapper taught in the same house. In the summer of 1867 a stone schoolhouse was erected on the southwest quarter of section 1. In this building Emma Peters taught the first term in the summer of 1868. A new modern building has been erected one-half mile west. District 59. This district at an early date was provided with a school, which was kept in the building of Elihu Morse, built for a granary. The first teacher was Syrena Lytle. In 1868 the district erected a frame schoolhouse on the northeast corner of section 7, in which A. M. Maxfield taught the first school. In the fall of 1882 this building was moved to the southwest quarter of section 6. This district now has a beautiful modern building. District 52. The first school in this district was taught by Mrs. J. T. Williams in the summer of 1863 at J. M. Morse's house. That fall a house was built on the southeast quarter of section 18, in which John T. Williams was the first teacher. In 1869 a grout or concrete school building was erected on the southwest quarter of section 20, in which Julia Crittenden was the first teacher. A modern building now occupies the site. District 2. This district was provided with its first schoolhouse in 1861. It was located on the northwest quarter of section 9. The first teacher here was Flora Reynolds. In 1871 a new frame building was erected on the northeast quarter of section 9. James Pierce taught the first term of school in this house. The children from this district are now transported to the village school of Le Roy. District 79. This district had its first school in a house belonging to Charles McNeal, located on the northeast quarter of section 22. This was in 1870. Later the district purchased a log house from James Sample, together with an acre of land, on the northeast quarter of section 22. This was used a short time, after which a frame building was erected. A modern building now occupies the site. District 5, Le Roy village. The first school in this district was held in a house belonging to Daniel Caswell, in the summer of 1857. That fall a stone schoolhouse was built in the old village of Le Roy. This building served as schoolhouse, church and public hall. After

the advent of the railroad and the building up of the new village of Le Roy this was sold to the Lutheran church organization and a new schoolhouse was erected. Le Roy now has a fine high school building. District 63. The first school in this district was taught in 1857 by Lydia Bonestell, in a small frame house, located in the southwest quarter of section 36. Soon afterward a small building was moved from Fillmore county and located on section 35. Serena Lytle and Mary Prentice were early teachers in this house. Later a frame building was provided near the same site, on the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of section 26.

The first superintendent of schools of Mower county was J. B. Tollman. He was appointed by the county commissioners, January 5, 1864, at an annual salary of \$100, to serve one year, from September 1, 1864. He served until 1867. Following him the superintendents have been: Sherman Page, 1867-69; O. T. Otis, 1869-70; A. S. Pike, 1870; J. T. Williams, 1870-72; A. A. Harwood, 1872-74; E. F. Morgan, 1874-75; N. M. Holbrook, 1875-77; A. H. Tuttle, 1877-81; C. D. Belden, 1881-90; Gertrude Ellis, 1890-1900; Fanny Gies, 1900-07; Grace B. Sherwood, 1907.

CHAPTER XV

ANECDOTES AND ADVENTURES

First Marriage—Hunting and Trapping—Early Days in Cedar City—Pioneers of Frankford—Frontier Experiences by Jacob S. Decker—Independence Celebration—Early Days in Lansing by O. J. Rhoades.

To some historians cold facts and exact dates alone are interesting. Others study the great underlying causes of the world's movements, and are interested in detailed events only as they constitute a visible effect of these eternal causes. But to the reader of local history nothing is so interesting as the reminiscences of the old settlers, in which real actors in the stirring adventures of frontier days relate for the benefit of posterity those stories and anecdotes that form so intimate a part of the life of the pioneer, but which find no place in written records. In preparing the "History of Mower County" it has been the aim to gather as many of these reminiscences as possible, and they are here presented for the perusal of the present and future generations, that they may learn here the sunshine and shadows in the lives of those who blazed the trail for civilization to follow.

FIRST MARRIAGE

The first marriage in Mower county was that of Caleb Stock and Mary Watkins, August 24, 1856. The golden anniversary of this event was celebrated in Austin, August 24, 1906, and on that occasion was read an address prepared by Mr. Stock. The address, in part, was as follows: In May, 1856, a company was getting ready to go to Minnesota, and among them were my friends from Burlington, Wis., conspicuous among them being Mary Watkins. The Watkins family, father and mother, five boys and three girls, were starting then to Mower county, Minnesota, overland with prairie schooners. I took the railroad to the Mississippi, then the steamboat to Brownville, then the stage to Elliot and Frankford, and then on foot over the prairie to Austin. We crossed Dobbin's creek and the Cedar river and found Austin, only a few log houses and a store, Yates & Lewis', with no hotel. I took my first meal with Father Brown, who was living in a tent and a wagon. This was early in June, 1856. Mr. Lewis showed me around and took me down to see friends, Phelps and Chandler, who were boarding with Uncle Eben Merry. Inquiring for the friends who were coming by schooner, I learned that they had not arrived. Soon, however, we heard that the caravan was in camp on Rose creek. The next morning after, we surprised them by an early call. They were glad to find a haven of rest after six weeks, with ox team over wild prairies, crossing creeks and rivers without bridges. There were twenty-seven in the company. Their hotel had been their camping ground, and their bill of fare their own cooking by the camp fires. We all crossed the Cedar river at Tiff's ford, and here we built our first log house. There were no shingles in the country and we had hard work to find boards for our roof. We found some at Otranto, Iowa. We could get no lime to plaster with, but our house was up, and the next move was to get a wife. I went to Austin to find a minister, but the one who had been there was gone. This fact was a great setback to me. I learned there was a justice of the peace in town, 'Squire Smith. I found him and told him my business. He thought he could do the job correctly. The day was settled, August 24, 1856, and 'Squire Smith tied the knot so tight it was never broken. Father Watkins settled on the farm now owned by David Watkins. Caleb Stock and John Phelps erected a saw mill at Cedar City in 1856, and in 1857 we added a run of burrs to grind wheat and corn.

In 1856 the winter was the most severe I can remember. In 1856 and the early part of 1857, times were good but money failed, and the latter part of 1857 it was hard to get it at from 25 to 40 per cent interest. The crop of 1857 was a failure.

Scarcely any wheat was raised, and the corn was frost-bitten. Supplies came mostly from West Union and Auburn, Iowa, where we secured our first stock for housekeeping. We brought the outfit with two ox teams over the prairies and through the streams. In 1858, the spring and most of the summer were very wet, and in August our mill was washed down the river. Provisions were very scarce. Streams were high, and we could not get out for supplies. We were nearly destitute. I remember well when we started with five teams for flour and corn meal. Those who were to share in the supplies left their bags with old Mr. Brown at the store. He numbered them and arranged them in order to be filled when the goods came. We had to go nearly to Mississippi for our goods, and some families lived on little but fish until we returned. There were a few Indians about during our first years, and my wife was very much alarmed lest they should take away our little babe, Ella.

Our early markets were LaCrosse and McGregor. We had to pay \$1 a bushel for potatoes, oats, corn or wheat. The first wheat we sold we drew to the Mississippi and sold for fifty cents per bushel. Eggs brought four cents a dozen, dressed pork \$2.50 per hundred in McGregor. Cows were worth \$10 to \$20 each. Men's wages were from fifty cents to \$1 a day. Money still brought 25 per cent interest in 1858-59.

But those pioneer days have passed and the ox cart is supplanted by more modern vehicles. The market of the world is at the end of our telephone. We have battled with fate and with the elements and we now enjoy the monuments that our struggles have builded.

HUNTING AND TRAPPING

The following from the pen of S. D. Mead, while differing from generally accepted historical accounts, is nevertheless interesting as coming in evident sincerity from one who claimed to have visited the present site of Austin in 1853. The "Austin Nickles" spoken of therein is evidently the Austin Nichols who was the first settler on the present townsite of Austin.

"The first white man that came to Austin was Austin Nickles, who came as a hunter in the fall of 1852 from his home in Clayton county, Iowa. The next fall, 1853, he came back to this locality, and I came with him. I was then fourteen years old. Nickles selected a claim embracing a part of where Austin now stands. That winter we took nine buffalo skins and many deer, mink, otter and beaver, but I do not know how many. I do remember that what I killed Nickles gave me, and I sold them when I reached home for \$190 in gold. I got one elk near where

the Milwaukee station now stands that measured nine feet from tip to tip. I have hunted some in my life, but I was never in a place where the game was so plentiful and where such a great variety was to be found. At that time we could get out and kill a deer in an hour any time in the morning or evening, and we did kill all that we wanted. Prairie chickens were plenty, and geese and ducks could be found in any place on the river. Mink, otter and beaver were plenty, with now and then a panther, but the latter were scarce. Prairie wolves were everywhere.

"The next year (1854) Nickles sold his claim and went to Blue Earth. The next year (1855) my step-father (Horace Silver) with four other families moved to Austin. Robert Autis, Lym. Gifford, Wilson King and the widow Lockwood, each with their families, comprised the company, but the latter did not settle here. The rest took claims along Turtle creek, Autis and King near the mouth, Gifford about due south of the present fair grounds, and my step-father, Horace Silver, took his claim farther up the creek, near the large boiling spring on the west side. My step-father worked for Chauncey Leverich that summer in a saw mill which stood about ten rods down the river from where the grist mill now stands, and on the same side of the river.

"My step-father owned oxen, as did also Autis, and with these I helped break the first ground ever broken in or near Austin. O. W. Shaw's residence stands on the east side of the first twenty acres of land ever broken in Austin. There was considerable heavy timber along the Cedar, and a little south of where the packing house now stands there was a maple sugar camp where the Indians made sugar. The Sioux Indians had their camp on the bank in front of the O. W. Shaw residence, a little to the south. In the winter of 1855 and 1856 there were about 200 Sioux Indians wintered on the bottom lands in back of the Gibson hotel. There was heavy timber there then. The Indians and the whites were always friendly."

EARLY DAYS IN CEDAR CITY

In regard to early days in Mower county, my wife and I drove from Burlington, Racine county, Wis., with a team of horses, to find a home in the territory of Minnesota. We arrived at David Chandler's farm, October 13, 1856. In the spring of that year I was married to Hannah Phelps, the daughter of Jeremiah and Margarette Phelps, who moved to Mower county, from Burlington, Wis., with the following families: Thomas Bormella, George and William Phelps, Diadamy and Mary Phelps

and John Watkins and family, composed of eight sons and daughters. John Phelps had preceded them and was on the ground with E. Merry and family, David and John Chandler, John Osborne and family, Caleb Stock and a Mr. Smith. The two last named with John Phelps composed the mill company. Next came Welcome Osborne and his family, also Joshua Welch and Abijah Pinkham with their families. These with a Mr. McKee and Means comprised the neighborhood settlement in the winter of 1856-57. In the spring came Welcome Chandler and Andrew Gemmel and their families. Before my wife and I arrived, Caleb Stock and Mary Watkins had spent their honeymoon. After their marriage John Phelps went back to Racine county, Wisconsin, and there married a Miss Lyon, which made another very valuable addition to our young but growing society. Then Timothy Gosley won the affections of Ann Watkins. These three were the first on the list of marriages of Cedar City. Cedar City mill was pushed to completion and began grinding in due time. But alas, the June freshet took the pioneer mill down with its rapid current and our young city grew no more and like many western towns ceased to live.

Several houses were erected by these families. The first covering for houses were indeed novel, hay, bark, rails and sod. Abraham Dickerson and father built the first good frame house and barn in the community. A school house was built on land owned by Caleb Stock. The logs and other timber were donated by the settlers, and it was built in the spring of 1857. Diadamy Phelps was the first teacher; she afterward married John B. Niles, who owned Tefts mill property. Stephen and David Chandler, Solomon Custer, and John and Evan Watkins also married early school teachers of Cedar City.

The earliest birth, I think, was a son born to Mr. and Mrs. John Osborne. The second, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cressey, and perhaps the third to Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Stock.

Perhaps it may be of interest to record the style of preparing breadstuff in those early times—no mills, no railroads and pretty nearly no food at times. Personally, I went to Austin three times, with money in my pocket, to buy flour, and finally succeeded in getting eleven pounds of flour of old Mr. Brown of the Log Store. When corn was nearing maturity the settlers took tin pans and punched holes through the bottom, and upon these circular graters managed to get enough corn grated to furnish bread for a time till they could do better. Welcome Chandler hollowed out a log, put it in the ground, attached a sweep similar to a well sweep and by means of a pounder, working like a druggist's mortar, succeeded in pounding out corn, which good Sister Chandler made into a first-rate "Johnny

cake." Others resorted to their coffee mills and ground corn in them.

The settlement saw close times financially as the days one by one rolled away. Money was hard to obtain, and the money loaners often charged as high as three or four per cent a month for loans on the very best of security.

Among the first of the good men to preach the gospel were Revs. Beach and Loomis. The traveling preachers of that time were Revs. Mapes and J. L. Dyer, of the Methodist denomination. Rev. Dyer held a "protracted meeting" in the log school house which his own hands helped to make. He had a voice which could be readily heard a half mile away. Most of the neighborhood were converted and a grand reformation followed. I did not like him, he was too rough; a sample of his talk, by way of introduction to me, was: "You are going to hell, ain't you?" However, I attended his meetings afterward, and now honor him for his work's sake. In those early times we were building and found it best to use oxen and carts for drawing logs, etc. One night I took my young wife and babe on one of these rude carts and went to meeting. On going home we had to cross the creek, and my wife with her babe in her arms slipped off the cart, but she held on to the babe with one hand and to the cart with the other, the oxen drawing her and the infant to the shore.

I can testify to the good, honest work of Brother John L. Dyer, the pioneer preacher. God honored him by his brethren of a frontier conference sending him as a delegate to the general conference. I joined afterwards under another preacher in charge.

Such are a few of the notes in early days. Jeremiah and M. Phelps had four sons in the Civil war. Mr. Watkins two, Essler two and Chandler one. So I think Cedar City and her people have done something for God and our country worthy a place in the history of Mower county.—Alfred Cressy.

PIONEERS OF FRANKFORD

My father, James B. Glover, with his family of four children, three daughters and one son, moved to the then far West, from Skaneateles, Onondaga county, N. Y., arriving at Frankford Minn., June, 1856. There were but few houses to be seen here at that time, but new arrivals were quite frequent and houses went up as if touched by magic hand. Where in early morning would be a bare clearing at nightfall the gleam of a lighted candle could be seen from the windows of some rude yet cosy cabin home, showing the progress of a single day.

The first church in Mower county was built here the next

year, the principals in the work being Elders Reeves and Waldron. The following winter it was formally dedicated as a house of worship. About the same time Frank Teabout built the first public hall. This was 24x60 feet. It was used that Christmas day and evening for a ball, over 100 couples being present. Mrs. Heidel, an aunt of the proprietor, and Henry Metzgar provided the bountiful supper for the gay and happy company.

The company was composed of all classes, from Fillmore and Mower counties. Goodly numbers came from Austin and Chatfield. The music was furnished by our own home pioneer band, the greater part of whom were married men living near here, George Hunt, Samuel Metcalf, Hazard Titus and Gideon Sherman being among the number who constituted this band.

We had a good and large school at this point that winter. It numbered about seventy pupils. Professor Hotchkiss, of Oberlin, Ohio, was the teacher, with myself as his assistant. At that time we had the county seat at this place and felt quite important. But the county seat honors were taken away from us, and our dreams were not realized.—Mrs. Matilda Lamb.

FRONTIER EXPERIENCES

At the time of my arrival in Minnesota, and settlement east of Austin, in 1856, there were but two stores in Austin. J. B. Yates and V. P. Lewis were the proprietors of one and A. B. Vaughan of the other. One was located on the corner of Mill and Chatham streets and the other was south of where J. F. Fairbanks now has his warehouse. A. B. Vaughan was postmaster. Mr. Day had a blacksmith shop built of logs on the corner of Main and Water streets. Chauncey Leverich, commonly called "Chance," had a saw mill located about where A. S. Campbell's mill is now standing. George H. Beemis had a shoe store on the corner of Chatham and Mill streets. Frank Blank had a shingle machine located where the electric light and pumping station is now located. There was a log hotel located on Water street, between Franklin and Chatham streets. At the time I arrived there were no churches or schoolhouses.

In the month of June, on a beautiful Sunday morning, we heard the first sermon in Austin preached by a Methodist minister named Erastus Mapes. The meeting was held in a frame house which Mr. Leverich was building for a hotel. In August, Rev. Stephen Cook arrived in Austin from Oberlin, Ohio, with a commission from the American Home Missionary Society to organize a Congregational church. He held meetings in private houses until winter. Late that fall the town people erected a

building called "Headquarters," for a store and meeting place, and for day school and Sunday school.

The second trip I made from home after arriving in Austin was to Winona with two yoke of oxen for lumber for this "Headquarters" building. I arrived home October 14 and found that the prairie fires had swept the whole county in my absence.

During the summer of 1856 I joined ox teams with one of my neighbors and broke about fifteen acres, on which I raised some buckwheat. In December, John Willson, one of my neighbors, joined teams with me, took my wood-shod sled and started with my buckwheat for Preston, Fillmore county. Arriving at Carri-mona, we found a grist mill and exchanged the buckwheat for flour. We obtained wheat flour, corn meal and shorts, and started for home. Ours was the last team to cross the prairie between Frankford and Austin that winter. The road between Austin and High Forest and thence to Winona was kept open all winter. The county seat was then at Frankford.

In the spring of 1857, I sold my two yoke of oxen and took up a note I had given to pre-empt my land. Consequently I had no team. I raised corn enough that season to trade for a yoke of oxen with John Phelps. In the summer of 1857 I exchanged work with my neighbors and had sixteen acres broken. In the winter of 1857-58 I cut and split oak rails enough to exchange with George N. Conkey for fourteen bushels of seed wheat. I sowed the wheat in the spring of 1858. In the fall I cradled and bound, threshed and cleaned, and thus secured seven bushels of wheat all told. In the spring of 1859 I sowed that seven bushels and never raised better wheat. That same spring a party consisting of James T. Sargent, Hugo Mills, John Whalasky, William Baker and myself went to Hesper, a Quaker settlement in Iowa, and secured flour, corn meal and middlings. In the fall of 1860 I went to Mitchell county, Iowa, for flour. This time I took wheat of my own raising. That same fall I exchanged my yoke of oxen and a small stack of wild hay for a three-year-old Arabian horse. I also exchanged 120 bushels of wheat for a three-year-old mare. The first trade was made with James Carver and the latter with Abraham Lott. Then I had no harness. I worked for a neighbor, John Watkins, and took a mule-iron tug harness for pay. This harness had no lines, but I bought a bell cord and made a pair of lines which I used two years. In the latter part of December, 1862, I loaded forty bushels of wheat and a 400-pound dressed hog for a merchant of Austin, George B. Hayes, and started for Winona, our nearest wheat market. When about half way between Brownsdale and Beaubien Grove the tire on one of the wheels of my wagon broke. I stopped immediately. There I was, all alone. The

ground was frozen hard and there was no snow. But fortune favors the brave. The porker was on top of my load. I took the end boards out of my wagon box, piled up the wheat sacks as high as the bottom of my box, slid the hog out on sacks, unloaded the balance of the wheat, and then took the broken tire and returned to Brownsdale, where I had it set. Then I went back as far as Mr. Tanner's, the last farm house, and there stayed all night. The next morning after breakfast I started for my load of wheat and pork. When I reached the spot everything was as I had left it, and the prairie wolves had not scented the feast. I backed up to the pile of wheat, slid the hog in the box, reloaded the pile of wheat and made another start for Winona, which place I reached without further mishap.

In the winter of 1865-66, I think it was in January, Obadiah Smith, A. V. Ellis and myself planned to start on a Friday morning for Casson with wheat. In the morning it looked very stormy, so I was the only one that started. I arrived in Casson in time to sell and unload my wheat. That night it snowed all night. I started for home the next morning. The roads were badly drifted. When I came to the last farm house I had the farmer go with me and start me across the lone prairie. After looking around, he advised me to go back with him and stay until Monday morning. This was Saturday afternoon. I did so. Monday morning was cloudy and it looked like snow. There was nothing to guide me, no sun was visible, and it was not less than fifteen miles to the settlement north of Brownsdale. However, I started. There was no evidence of the summer road to guide me. The grass, weeds and hazel bushes were all snowed under. The railroad had been finished to Casson the fall before. After I had gone about two miles, it was apparent that the team was lost. I stopped, tied the lines to the box, dropped on my knees and prayed to the Lord to guide the horses to the settlement on the other side of the prairie. I did not touch the lines, but let the team go as they pleased, and did not hurry them. In the afternoon I came to the settlement about one mile north of the right road. I was very happy after striking the right road. That is the only time I was ever lost.

In February, 1865, James T. Sargent, George N. Conkey, Henry Carter, Isaac N. Peterman, Hugh Mills, James Mills and myself started for St. Paul with loads of oats. The wheeling was good, and all the ground, except the roads, was about covered with snow. We sold our oats in St. Paul and drove across the country to Minneapolis. That was my first trip to the Twin Cities. The rest of the party loaded their wagons with lumber for a Methodist church. I loaded mine with pine siding and flooring to finish an addition to my house.

May 5, my house was destroyed by fire and we lost everything except what we had on our backs. The building was insured with the Madison Mutual of Wisconsin for \$300. In August of the same summer, I took a load of wheat to Winona, accompanied by our oldest son, Calvin. We camped out along the way and slept under our wagon nights, except when in the city. At Winona we sold our wheat, purchased a carload of lumber, and shipped it by rail to Rochester. We followed the train to Rochester, unloaded the lumber, brought a load home and finished the house in time to move in November 16.

My wife helped me in all my work until the boys were old enough to take her place. With heroic fortitude she loaded and stacked hay and grain, cut corn, dug potatoes, milked the cows and did her housework. My wife and I are charter members of the Congregational church of Austin, which we helped to organize July 6, 1857. We also had the pleasure of assisting in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary, July 6, 1907. I am a life member of the American Board of Foreign Missions, a life member of the American Home Missionary Society, a member of the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers' Association; helped to organize the Austin Co-operative Creamery Association, and was its first president; was president of the Mower County Old Settlers' Association eighteen years, and have been a member of the Austin town board for a number of terms, as well as town treasurer and a justice of the peace.—Jacob S. Decker.

INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION

M. J. Slaven has furnished this work with an interesting account of an early Fourth of July celebration in Rose Creek. "What an event our first Fourth of July celebration was to those of us who had known no play for a year! It was the people along Rose Creek who took the lead. A few days before the Fourth we called our neighbors together to prepare for the coming of the great day. Mrs. Aaron Draper and Mrs. Catherine Slaven were appointed as a flag committee. They procured their own material and experienced something of the satisfaction and joy of Betsy Ross at the wonderful results accomplished. Mrs. Patrick O'Malley, Mrs. Thomas Smith, Mrs. Stephen Sutton and Mrs. Andrew Robertson planned the feast and the men went at their work with zeal. At sunrise on the Fourth the sound of Draper's anvil awoke the echoes and people began to gather at the O'Malley farm, near the site of the present village of Rose Creek. People came from Austin, Brownsdale, Frankford, Le Roy, Nevada, and in fact from the whole length of Rose Creek. What a jolly crowd it was that greeted our flag, which floated

from the top of an oak tree which had been stripped of its branches. There was a program, of course. Thomas Smith read the Declaration of Independence. James Slaven delivered the oration and then came a bountiful dinner, followed by games and races. Then the tables were spread again, for we were a healthy, hungry race, and though not epicurean in our tastes the joys of the table certainly appealed to us. As evening came on the older people prepared to go home. Not so the younger ones, who clamored for a dance. The Fourth did not end for them until the dawn of the following day, when after a hot breakfast they were obliged to start for home. Perhaps it was this gathering more than any other which promoted a feeling of interest in one another among the people, and that interest has not entirely died out, as witnessed by the yearly gathering of the steadily decreasing circle of those who are privileged to call themselves old settlers."

EARLY DAYS IN LANSING

Clymer, Chautauqua county, N. Y., was the place of my birth, September 17, 1845. From there I moved with my parents to Warren county, Pennsylvania, and stayed six years. Then, in the fall of the year, our family started for Iowa with a team. After a long journey we reached Maquoketa, Jackson county, the night before Christmas. Then we went to a farm near where Delmar Junction is now located. There we stayed four years. Then we changed our horses for two yoke of oxen, and made our way to Gundy county, Iowa. We arrived there in May, 1856. We did not like the place, however, and in August of that year we started for Minnesota. We found a place that suited us and on August 25, 1856, we pitched our tent in what is now section 22, Udolpho township. There we started to make a home. When we reached here father had two yoke of oxen, one cow, and thirty-five cents in money. The third day after we arrived father was taken ill with malaria and rheumatism and had to be helped to get out of bed. We badly needed some hay cut for the winter use of the cattle. I mowed what I could, but I was barely eleven years old, my eleventh birthday coming in September of that year. Mother bunched up what hay I could mow and then we hauled it and stacked it around some crotches and poles, thus making a place to sleep in. We had the stove in a tent made of the wagon cover. We had an early frost and this killed the grass, so I could cut no more hay. Then I started to cut logs for a house, father being just well enough to get out and show me how. Our first visitors were five Indians on horseback, who seemed much interested in all that we were doing. Later

the forest fires began to run. I secured a plow and plowed some guards. I thought this made us safe, but one windy day a fire came and while mother and I were getting father where it was safe the fire jumped the guards and burned everything we had, except the clothes on our bodies, and even those clothes were of the very poorest. I went out and found the frightened oxen and took father and the rest to one of the neighbors, where we spent the night. The next day we went to Austin and sold one pair of oxen, thus securing money to buy provisions and clothes. While we were gone the neighbors had been about and gathered some bedding and clothing for us, so with what we purchased we managed to get along. Some of the men from Lansing came and cut logs, with which they built us the body of a house, one story high. We laid some poles across and a neighbor loaned us a tent to put over for a roof. We chinked the cracks and plastered the logs with mud, and in this edifice we lived, keeping the cattle in the other end. In November I went to Brownsdale and got a load of oak timber for floors and doors. Provisions were scarce and high. Corn meal was \$5 a hundred and pork \$15 a hundred. Flour we did not dare even think of. Winter set in early and very cold. We had to sell our last team and wagon to get food and clothing for the winter. In the spring we wanted to get some breaking done. It cost us \$5 an acre. Wages were fifty cents a day, when one was fortunate enough to get work. Father secured the use of two yoke of oxen for breaking ten acres each. Then he joined with another man who had two yoke and secured a twenty-four-inch grub plow and broke all summer. Thus we lived through the summer. I drove four yoke of oxen and father worked out when he could find anything to do, in the meantime doing things to make the house more comfortable. Our clothes wore out and mother colored cotton meal sacks with bark and made dresses for herself and the girls, and trousers and jumpers for father and me. We killed game and caught fish for food, and had one cow to furnish milk. The second winter father worked at burning charcoal. He also had some traps made and caught animals, from which he sold some fur. With this money we purchased a little flour and some clothing. In the spring I worked four days for a bushel of potatoes, so small that each one would go through an inch hole. But they made good seed and we raised good potatoes. In the spring of 1859 father had \$15, which he had received from furs. With this he hoped to buy a hog, but the man who brought them in from Iowa wanted fourteen cents a pound and would not cut one up. So we could not buy. But a man said he would sell a three-year-old cow for \$15, so we brought the cow home. This we traded for a four-year-old bull. Soon we purchased

another bull at Brownsdale for \$17 and broke in the pair to work together. We had a wagon, so we made a wooden sled, which had to answer for freight and pleasure. Then we joined with two of our neighbors and broke ten acres apiece. One of the neighbors had a stag and a cow for his team, the other had a good yoke of oxen, and we had the bulls. In the spring of 1862 we sowed fifteen acres to wheat and broke some more land. August 9 we commenced to harvest. Father cut with a cradle, mother raked in the sheaves, and I bound, while the two girls placed it in shocks. That day father enlisted in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and went to Ft. Snelling, from which place he went out after the Indians. Mother and I harvested the crop. I cradled, mother raken in, and then would carry the cradle back and I would bind it. This took a long time. Father came home on a furlough and helped stack it. Then I secured a threshing machine and threshed it. We had no granary, so I laid up a rail pen and thatched the sides and roof with straw and put the wheat in. We needed some clothing and desired to change the wheat into money. So we had to get it taken to Winona. I could not haul with my team, so we hired a neighbor to take a load for us. He charged twenty-five cents a bushel. When we reached Winona all he could get for it was thirty cents a bushel. It cost seven cents to get it threshed. So he took it to the Stewartville mill and had it ground into flour. He gave me half the flour and kept the bran and the shorts to feed his team. That is the way I made money. But I got enough to eat and managed to get along. Father went south with his regiment and was taken prisoner at the battle of Guntown. He was starved to death by the rebels in Milan prison. I stayed in Udolpho, paid for the place and took care of mother and furnished a home for the girls until they were married and had homes of their own. Mother died January 1, 1910. I have never had time to get married, so I am still single.

—O. J. Rhoades.

CHAPTER XVI

EARLY AUSTIN

City Founded at the Old Water Ford—Coming of Austin Nichols—Arrival of Chauncey Leverich—Beginning of Settlement—Platting the Village—Pioneer Days—Important Events—Murder of Chauncey Leverich—Stories of the Small Beginnings of What Has Become an Important City.

Austin, the county seat of Mower county, is situated, broadly speaking, in sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, in Austin township, and sections 34 and 35, in Lansing township. The exact incorporate limits are as follows:

All of section 3; the north half and the southwest quarter, and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 2; the northeast quarter of section 10; and the northwest quarter of section 11, all in township 102, range 18. Also the south half of the south half of section 34, and the south half of the southwest quarter, and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 35. Also a strip of land, 40 feet wide, off from the west side of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of same section 34. Also the land within and known as Oakwood cemetery, being in the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of the same section 34, township 103, range 18.

The city is three miles from the western line of the county and midway north and south. It is built on both the east and the west banks of the Red Cedar river, which raises in Dodge county to the north and flows south into the state of Iowa. Austin was laid out in the fall of 1855 by Chauncey Leverich and A. B. Vaughan, and regularly platted in the spring of 1856.

FIRST SETTLEMENT

The first settler on the present site of the city of Austin was Austin Nichols, who located here in 1853. He sold his claim in 1854 to Chauncey Leverich.

Chauncey Leverich was a young man, from twenty-five to thirty years of age, naturally bright and ambitious, with an eye to business. He pre-empted 160 acres of land, described as follows: The south one-half of the northwest quarter of section 3, and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of the same section, and the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 2. The latter piece of land included the mill site. He immediately commenced building a saw mill, which was com-

pleted early the next year. He started in business with good prospects, but his career was suddenly brought to an end in 1856.

During the same year, 1854, the following named came: D. J. Tubbs, Benedict Brown, Robert Dobbins, David L. and Willard Smith, and a man named Pinkham. Late in 1854, or early in 1855, Winfield Loveland and Francis Stuhfell came.

D. J. Tubbs was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1825. On coming to this county he entered and bought land in this vicinity, but continued to work at his trade. He built a saw mill in 1854 on the site of the present flouring mill of Engle & Co. In 1856 he built a saw mill for himself about one and a half miles south of Austin on the Cedar river. These were among the first mills erected in Mower county. Mr. Tubbs remained in Austin, engaged in contracting and building, and became a substantial citizen.

Benedict Brown was a son of Aloysius Brown. He erected a small frame building near Fay R. Smith's residence and entertained travelers for a time. He pre-empted the northwest of section 3. In January, 1856, he sold three forties of this land to Yates & Lewis. He remained a resident of the place two or three years. He afterwards engaged in farming in Lansing. In 1879 he removed to the Dakotas.

Robert Dobbins claimed the southwest of section 3. In the fall of 1855 he sold to David Oliver. He then went to Lansing and later to Clarksville, Butler county, Iowa.

David L. Smith was born in Genesee county, New York, January 22, 1820. In 1854 he and his wife, Emma Tierney, started in a prairie schooner to seek a home in the territory of Minnesota. He arrived at Chauncey Leverich's house on October 19. He had left his family in Fayette county, Iowa. After remaining here two weeks, returned for his family, bringing them to Mower county. They spent the winter on the present site of the city of Austin. In the spring of 1855 he built a cabin on his claim in the town of Lansing; lived there a few months, then purchased eighty acres in section 2, town of Austin, where he lived ten years, after which he sold and bought a farm in section 5, town of Windom.

Willard Smith, brother of David L., spent the winter of 1854-55 in Austin. He afterward settled in section 2, where he resided until the time of his death.

Pinkham made but little impress upon Austin, and after a short time departed without leaving even a record of his first name or initials.

Winfield Loveland was a blacksmith by trade. He purchased a piece of land now occupied by Mrs. G. M. Cameron and there erected a set of log buildings. He was a lover of fast horses,

and was the owner of a running horse that was so well trained that after having been once led over a piece of road he would go over the same stretch to beat another horse or against time without a rider. Loveland remained here but two or three years. After his removal the stable which he had used was taken down and moulds for making gold and silver coins were found secreted between the logs. It was remembered that he had several times passed counterfeit money, but had always willingly redeemed it, and thus avoided trouble.

Francis Stuhfell was a Canadian Frenchman. He purchased the lot later occupied by Sylvester Smith's family. He erected a shanty and made shingles for a time. In the fall of 1855 he sold to Sylvester Smith and located elsewhere. He went away with Loveland. A part of the time while living here he kept a saloon.

SETTLERS OF 1855

The people who spent the winter of 1854-55 here were obliged to subsist to quite an extent on wild game, which was quite abundant. The spring of 1855 opened with brighter prospects, quite a number of settlers coming that year. Among those that came were the following: George and Oliver Bemis, J. B. Yates, V. P. Lewis, Sylvester Smith, Levi Watrous, Abe Haveling and "Wild Cat" Brown, G. W. Mason and a man named Hayes.

George Bemis settled on the lot east of Sylvester Smith's place; was one of the men prominently connected with the "stealing of the county seat." He was an honored resident of the county until 1869, when he removed to Utah, where he engaged in mining. His death occurred there in August, 1884.

Oliver Bemis, from Maine, in 1855 pre-empted 160 acres near the present city, built a shanty and started breaking the land. The following year he sold this land and purchased a farm in section 11. Four years later he sold this place and bought a farm in section 3, Windom township, at about the same time starting, with his brother George, the first shoe store in Austin.

J. B. Yates and **V. P. Lewis** were both natives of York state and of a speculative turn of mind, and were engaged in business here for many years. Yates continued to reside in Austin. Lewis remained here until 1882, when he removed to Hopkins, Mo., where he engaged in mercantile trade.

Sylvester Smith was from Canada. He purchased Stuhfell's place. He soon became prominent in county affairs and remained a resident of Austin until his death.

Abe Haveling (or Haling) was a blacksmith by trade, was one of a roving disposition; remained here but a short time.

"**Wild Cat**" **Brown** was a frontiersman of the roughest type.

Civilization did not seem to agree with him, so he left in 1856.

G. W. Mason purchased an interest in the town plat from Leverich. It was he with Vaughan that had the race to Frankford to beat Yates and Lewis and get their plat recorded first, but like others that raced with the same parties got left.

Levi Watrous was from Iowa and with his brother had a claim in section 12. He lived here about two years. Afterward he entered the ministry. He was a chaplain in the army. The last heard from he was near Elkader, Ia., pastor of an Adventist church. It is said that in the spring of 1855 Watrous, Leverich and Mason were one day sitting under a tree speculating as to the future of the place and during the conference named it **Austin**, in honor of Austin Nichols, the first settler. The place at the time was known as Leverich's mill.

Hayes was generally called Black Hayes, to distinguish him from G. B. Hayes. He was a speculator in land; remained here but a short time.

SETTLERS OF 1856

In 1856 the following named were among those who came: J. H. McKinley, Charles Ferris, George E. Wilbour, Solomon Snow, R. L. and W. S. Kimball, Orlenzer and Ormanzo Allen, Joshua L. Davidson, Hiram L. Coon, G. B. Hayes, D. B. Johnson, Jr., Aaron S. Everest, G. M. Cameron, Colbert C. Hanchett, Loyal W. Sprague, Dr. J. N. Wheat, Rev. Stephen Cook and his son, John F., Harvey M. Allen, Samuel Little, S. W. Rice, Luther S. Morgan, James C. Ackley, Albert Galloway and L. N. Griffith.

J. H. McKinley came early in the spring and purchased a frame building, which he opened as a hotel, the first in the place. He managed it but a few months, when he sold and moved to Mitchell county, Iowa.

Charles Ferris was McKinley's son-in-law. He came at the same time and went away with him. He was a carpenter by trade.

Solomon Snow and **George E. Wilbour** were from Massachusetts. They bought the hotel from McKinley and entertained travelers three years, when Wilbour returned to Massachusetts. In 1869 he came back.

R. L. and W. S. Kimball, natives of New Hampshire, came from Illinois in April. They soon opened the first hardware store in the place.

Orlenzer and **Ormanzo Allen** were twin brothers, natives of York state, and came here from Wisconsin. The former was a physician, the first to locate in Austin. He practiced here until 1870, when he moved to Milan, Rock county, Wis., where he since

died. Ormanzo was a lawyer by profession. He came in the month of July and lived here until his death.

Joshua L. Davidson was born in New Hampshire, in December, 1812. When a boy he moved with his parents to Allegheny county, New York, in the town of New Hudson, near Cuba. He married in his young manhood Phoebe Ann Woodford, who was own cousin to Lucius Robinson, ex-governor of New York. Five or six years after their marriage they moved West, settling in Lake county, Illinois, near Chicago. He there engaged in farming. After four years there he removed to Rockford, Ill. This was about 1851, and he remained there till 1855, during which time he made several trips into the great Northwestern territory, of which Minnesota is now a part. In the spring of 1855 he came to Winona, Minn., where he purchased a large interest in the town site of that city. His wife died the spring he left Rockford, 1855, and November 24, 1856, in Fond du Lac, Wis., he married his second wife, Mrs. H. Attila Albro. In the early spring of 1856 he came to Austin and bought large interests, among which was the land known as "Davidson's addition to Austin." He was a speculator in real estate and a busy worker at whatever his hands found to do. He moved his family to Austin in the spring of 1857, having already, in company with John F. Cook, D. M. V. Stuart and H. C. Bolcom, built the first frame building of any size. This was known as the "Headquarters." The pine lumber used in the erection of this old landmark was hauled from Winona, a distance of nearly a hundred miles. During the Civil war he built the Davidson House—the second hotel of the place. He leased this property until the last year of his life, when he operated it himself. Mr. Davidson was deacon of the Austin church from the time of its organization until the time of his death, which occurred February 27, 1873. He donated the lots upon which the Congregational church now stands at Austin.

Hiram L. Coon was a physician. He remained but a short time.

G. B. Hayes was a native of New Hampshire. He was the leading merchant of Austin for some years.

D. B. Johnson, Aaron S. Everest and **G. M. Cameron** were all lawyers by profession. The two former were natives of York state, the latter of Canada.

Colbert C. Hanchett and **Loyal W. Sprague** came from Wisconsin and engaged in mercantile trade, in which they continued about three years. Hanchett was afterward in the army as a sutler. He died in the South during the war. The last heard from Sprague he was at Whitewater, Wis.

J. W. Wheat was a native of New Hampshire; a physician.

James C. Ackly purchased a one-fourth interest in the village

plat. He afterward engaged in the boot and shoe trade. After the war he moved to southern Missouri and later to Atchison, Kan., where he died.

Albert Galloway was born in the town of Newburg, Orange county, N. Y., October 6, 1822. In 1856 he started for Minnesota, intending to locate at Minneapolis. While on the boat between Dunleith and Winona he met friends who induced him to go to Chatfield with them. They started from Winona on foot and walked to Chatfield. After a short stop there they proceeded on their journey and walked to Frankford. He there procured a ride to Austin. This was in the fall of 1856. He immediately pre-empted a claim in section 17, town 102, range 18. He proved up on that claim in November of that year and engaged during the following winter as clerk in Hanchett & Sprague's store. In 1857 he formed a partnership with D. R. Johnson, Jr., and engaged in mercantile business. He had cut some logs, which he sawed at Leverich's mill, and erected the store building. The lumber for siding and floor he drew from Winona. Galloway & Johnson dissolved partnership about one year later, after which Mr. Galloway continued in business alone, carrying a good stock of goods. He remained in business until 1868.

L. N. Griffith was born in Allegany county, New York, November 18, 1824. He removed when a child to Lorain county, Ohio. He was postmaster of Austin postoffice from 1857 to 1858, and was also justice of the peace for many years.

Others that were known to have been here as early as 1856 were Dennis Crandall, John E. Hallett, Samuel Wheeler, C. P. Carpenter, Charles and George Bodle, J. M. V. Stuart, John M. Fleming, A. W. Billings.

John E. Hallett engaged for a time clerking in Yates & Lewis' store.

J. M. V. Stuart and **John M. Fleming** were from Canada. The former had money to invest in land. After two or three years he moved to Kansas. Fleming was a young man with a good education. He was for a time deputy register of deeds. He remained a resident of Austin until the time of his death, which occurred in an early day.

Charles Bodle remained here two or three years, during which time he drove stage.

C. P. Carpenter was also a stage driver. Two or three years later he went back to New Hampshire, where he lived a few years. Then returned to Austin, where he died.

FIRST EVENTS

The first man to locate in the vicinity of Austin was "Hunter" Clark, who built a log cabin near the grounds of Oakwood cemetery in the fall of 1853. The first frame house in Austin was erected by Chauncey Leverich, in the autumn of 1855. In 1866 the first brick dwelling house in town was the Congregational parsonage, corner of Maple and St. Paul streets. The second by J. B. Yates, corner of Kenwood avenue and Mill street. The bricks were made in Austin by Yates & Lewis, who started the first brick yard. The first white child born in Austin was Austin Bemis, son of George H. and Eleanor Merrick Bemis, born November 17, 1855. The second child born in the place was Carrie M. Wheat, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. N. Wheat. She was born December 6, 1856. She became the wife of E. G. Bascomb, of Rochester, Minn. The first piano owned in the city was purchased by Dr. J. N. Wheat. The first church organ was played by Mrs. Johnson, at the Methodist church, in 1863. The first brick business house in Austin was erected in 1866, by Harlan Page, for a bank, with law offices above. This was destroyed by fire in 1869, and the present First National Bank building erected on its site. The first goods were sold by A. B. Vaughan, in 1855. George H. Bemis ran the first shoe shop. The first death within the place was that of Chauncey Leverich, in the early fall of 1856. Old settlers declare that David Oliver broke the first ground on the forty acres now platted and known as "Parker & Brown's addition to Austin."

EARLY DAYS IN AUSTIN

Judge Ormanzo Allen, some years ago, in an address before the Old Settlers' Association, admirably summed up the early history of Austin in the following words:

In the year 1853 the territory embraced in Mower county was surveyed into townships and sectionized. Prior to that time and, as for that matter, several years thereafter, Mower county was the home and hunting grounds of the wild Indian, and the early settlers of Mower county have seen them in their native independence as they have been by scores in their teepees and wigwams along the Cedar river; and many of you have seen them in their native dependence as they have begged for bread in your houses, where they have entered unannounced and uninvited, and you have heard their simple language.

In the fall of 1852 some camps were made along the Cedar river by trappers from Iowa, but were abandoned in the following winter. In the fall of 1853, near where Oakwood cemetery

now is, a man by the name of "Hunter" Clark settled and built there the first log house in the eastern part of Mower county. About this time came Austin Nichols, who built a log house just back of where Judge Cameron's house afterward stood. Austin was named in honor of this first settler on the town plat of Austin. Austin Nichols soon moved west. That same winter of 1853-54 and in the spring of 1854 other settlements were made along the Cedar river and Deer creek and Iowa river, Lewis Patchin being among the number of settlers along Deer creek.

In the latter part of the year 1854, and in the year 1855, settlers began to come in from Iowa and Wisconsin, among whom were Alanson B. Vaughan, who settled at Lansing; John Robinson, who settled near High Forest; John Tift, who settled eight miles south of Austin; Chauncey Leverich, who bought out Austin Nichols; Abraham S. Lott, C. H. Huntington, James and Return B. Foster, who all settled four or five miles south of Austin along the Cedar river. September 14, 1855, the first land was taken and proved upon by Chauncey Leverich, Jeremiah B. Yates and Velorous P. Lewis. Sylvester Smith, Henry and William Baudler and many others came this year, 1855.

During the year 1856 hundreds came to Austin and Mower county, and among them your obedient servant. So that at the close of the year 1856 there were estimated to be 600 people in Mower county and about 100 people in Austin.

The first deed for the conveyance of real estate in Mower county is now on file at the office of the register of deeds of Goodhue county, in the city of Red Wing. Many deeds were filed and recorded in Houston county, and several years ago William Carey Snow, then deputy register of deeds for Mower county, went to Caledonia and copied such deeds upon our records.

The first minister that ever preached a sermon in Austin was the Rev. Mr. Mapes, then stopping for a short time near Brownsdale. Following close on to this was a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Phelps. These sermons were both by Methodist ministers, and both preached in the Snow & Wilbour hotel. Rev. Stephen Cook, John F. Cook's father, a Congregational minister, was the third person to preach in Austin. He preached during August, 1856, and the succeeding few months in a small house, then used as a schoolroom, and on the spot where Thomas Riley's dwelling was later erected. During the winter of 1856-7, Rev. E. F. Gurney and Stephen Cook preached in private houses about town as they were invited.

The first school in Austin was taught by Maria Vaughan in a log house, which was afterwards occupied by yours truly and his wife for a dwelling house and stood on the north side

of Water street, where James Anderson's was later erected. The second school was taught by one Sarah Bemis, sister of Oliver and George Bemis. The third by Kate Conkey, sister of George N. Conkey. Both these schools were located in a small building where Thomas Riley's dwelling house was later erected. The fourth and last primitive school was taught in the winter of 1856-7 by a young gentleman by the name of Saxon, the payment of whose wages caused the arrest and sale of several thousand shingles, by your most obedient as district clerk, belonging to two merchants whose names I forbear to mention. Those young merchants severely threatened that faithful clerk of the school district with a long and tedious lawsuit, but the suit has never come off yet, as I have heard. The first schoolhouse built in Austin was later occupied and used as the Methodist Episcopal church.

The first parties married in the county were Caleb Stock and Mary Watkins. This was in 1856, Sylvester Smith, a justice of the peace, officiating. The first birth was that of Austin Bemis, son of George and Eleanor Bemis, in the year 1855. The first death was that of Mary Robinson, of High Forest, daughter of John Robinson, in the year 1855. The first town site recorded was the town of Austin, which was partly surveyed and platted by Yates & Lewis and is now Yates & Lewis' addition to Austin. Then followed the village of Austin.

Several once live and famous town sites have long since passed in their chips. I refer to the city of Madison, ten miles north of here on the west side of Cedar river, which once had its hotels, stores and saw mill. I refer also to the city of Two Rivers, one mile and a half south of here, at the confluence of the Turtle and Cedar rivers, which once had a famous hotel, kept by Robert Autis, and for a time bid fair to eclipse Austin. I refer also to Cedar City, six miles south of here, which once had its saw mill and its flour mill, and Justice Meanes, before whom long suits at law were wont to be tried in ancient days. But the floods of August, 1858, swept out the last vestige of that city. I refer also to Troy City, eight miles south of here, which, unlike its predecessor of ancient lore, never had any wooden horses to beguile the unsuspecting and overcredulous, but it had its hotel and saw mill and grist mill, which the floods of 1858 and financial reverses swept away. There were also some misadventures upon the east side of the county in founding cities, like Frankford and old LeRoy, which have nearly faded out.

The first frame house built in the county was built by Chauncey Leverich on lot 5, in block 2, in the village of Austin, near where the dwelling house of James T. Sargent was later erected. By so doing the Leverichs were accused, at that time, of putting

on "airs," which frame house long since went down before the corroding tooth of time. The first saw mill built in the county was built by Chauncey Leverich in the year 1855, where Engle's was later erected.

The first newspaper ever published in the county was by David Blakely in Austin in the fall of 1858, called the Mower County Mirror. Blakely started this paper in consideration of being elected to the lucrative office of register of deeds of Mower county. He published this paper for about one year, and was succeeded by Rufus K. Crum, who published the paper for about another, at which time the paper was removed to Rochester, Minn. About four months thereafter B. F. Jones commenced the publication of the Courier, which, by various devices, was continued for some two years, when Jones went into the United States service, and in July, 1863, the Mower County Register was started by Herman R. Davidson, just out of Oberlin college, and son of Joshua L. Davidson, who published the paper for about one year and until his death, when C. H. Davidson continued the publication of the paper. Then came the Transcript and other papers.

The hasty glance which we have taken contrasting the present with the past shows that Mower county has indeed made great progress in every material and vital matter pertaining to and affecting the interests and the true interests of her citizens, and that Mower county is well abreast with other counties in our state in her mechanical and agricultural interests, as well as schools, churches, railroads, buildings, bridges and every internal improvement calculated to build up and develop the whole country.

HEADQUARTERS

In the winter of 1856-57, the building known as Headquarters was built. It was built by Joshua L. Davidson, J. F. Cook, J. M. V. Stuart and H. C. Bolecom. It was located on Main street. The lower story was used as a store for many years. The upper story was all that can possibly be meant by the word "head-quarters." Within this building the Mirror, the first paper in Mower county, was started by David Blakely, and its newspaper honor did not close till it had been used as the office of the Minnesota Courier, the Register and Transcript, thus being the birth-place of four of Mower county's solid journals. The first court ever held in Mower county convened here. It was also used for school and religious purposes. Some of the early settlers will remember how the pioneers came in from the country with ox teams to worship at this place. There were the old and

young, and among the number might have been seen pretty maidens with their shaker bonnets, and sometimes in their bare feet. This was also the place for holding all the public gatherings, festivals, dances and other events. Could its walls but speak, what a tale it would tell of days long since passed into oblivion. The Austin National Bank now occupies the site.

OLD TERRITORIAL ROAD

In the early fifties of the last century, a half-broken trail wound its way from the Iowa state line to what are now the Twin Cities. In time the trail became known as the territorial road. At one point it made an abrupt turn to take advantage of a ford in a beautiful stream that bubbled and gurgled over pebbles and ever-shifting sand. Along the trail and down to the ford came army horses and mules to plunge fetlock deep and thrust their dust-filled nostrils in the cooling water. Here the troopers used to tarry on their way through the Northwest. Here emigrants in canvas-covered wagons rested while their tired oxen browsed on the rich herbage. The Sioux from his tepee on the banks watched the ever-increasing, never-ending tide of caravans that were to crowd the red men toward the setting sun. Trappers of the mink and of the otter, and hunters of the deer, came and pitched their tents beneath the cottonwoods.

In the meantime came Austin Nichols. Others followed. Then came Chauncey Leverich. He came to the crossing of the waters on his way to the Northwest, where he sought the fur-bearing creatures of forest and stream. Standing on the banks of the Cedar, he said: "Here will I pitch my tent, here will I found a city." Here, therefore, the city was built upon the bank of the Cedar, whose waters once swept noisily through this valley to join the far away Mississippi, now harnessed for the needs of man, forms a lake dotted with islands, among which dart the swiftly driven launches of pleasure seekers. Along the banks of the river, parks are laid out, not to spoil but to preserve the wildness of spots which nature made lovely in wanton, reckless prodigality. There are some places where it would seem that nature had set out to make more beautiful than any other spot some places where she seemed to have worked to display what the poet has called "her wilder majesty." Aeons of time she spent to enrich the soil and then set the deep and everlasting springs, some to pour forth like fountains, some mere trickling streams of liquid crystal to flow from the black loam, others she set to form deep pools and put in perpetual motion the silvery sands to roll about the bottom as though blown by some

spirit of the deep. Into the soil she scattered with a prodigal hand the seed of a thousand flowers and grasses that the land might flow with milk and honey. After they who spied out the land had returned with the grapes of Eschol, others came to this goodly land. The pioneer followed the trail of the trapper. The lowing of the kine was heard where the wolf's long howl had echoed down the flights of years. The preacher came to plant the cross where the Indian had pitched his wigwam. The teacher came and the schoolhouse was set like a lamp upon a hill. The railroad supplanted the trail itself and the electric spark told that Austin was born on the spot where Chauncey Leverich stood when he declared to his trappers fifty-three years ago, "Here will I build a city."

That was over half a century ago. The old ford is no more. The rapids above it are harnessed and the wheels they turn grind the grain that grows where the hunter lay in wait for the buffalo and deer. The trapper comes no more to the stream, for he has passed on with the Indian, the mink and the otter. The territorial trail has become a legend with which the old settlers love to beguile an hour with the newcomer. Its windings were long ago made straight, and brick paving covers the soil once trod by trooper and emigrant. Automobiles rush along the city streets where the covered wagon caravan creaked over the prairie trail. The cottonwoods are no more. They were patricians in those days but plebeians in this. The places they occupied are now filled with graceful elms, fragrant catalpa and handsome maples, spirea bow their wreaths in the boulevards over a carpet of deepest green. The sky line, once formed by the trees of the virgin forest, is now marked by the spires and crosses of a half a score of churches and by the smokestacks of factories and the roofs of happy homes.—John H. Skinner.

Leverich bought out Austin Nichols and settled on the original village of Austin, Davidson's, Berry's, Brown's and Parker's and a forty of railroad additions; D. J. Tubbs built a saw mill for Leverich; Robert Dobbins settled on the Balcom quarter; Benedict J. Brown on Yates & Lewis' and Brown's additions. In September, C. H. Huntington, A. S. Lott, Calvin Powers and Moses Rolfe took claims east of the Cedar in the southern part of the town, and D. L. Chandler began the Cedar City settlement. The Averys, father and two sons, settled the Strever farm and other land near. David L. and Willard Smith came in October, 1854. Francis Stuhfell and Winfield Lovel, or Loveland, a blacksmith, came later, perhaps early in 1855. The first made shingles and for a time ran a saloon; the last loved fast horses and, so the old settlers allege, made counterfeit money. Game was abundant and a principal means of subsistence. In 1855

George and Oliver Bemis, shoemakers; J. B. Yates, V. P. Lewis, Sylvester Smith, Levi Watrous, Abe Haling, A. B. Vaughn, G. W. Mason, Black Hayes and Wild Cat Brown and others were added to the city population. There settled in the town Robert Autis, on section 10; Alexander Nigus, on the Ellis farm; Reuben Watrous, Widow Lockwood, George and Thomas Phelps, Clem Smith, Daniel McPherson and M. J. Woodson. In 1856 there came early J. H. McKinley, and built the first hotel, which he sold to Sol Snow and G. E. Wilbour, arriving later, and Charles Ferris, carpenter; R. L. and W. S. Kimball, hardware; four attorneys, Ormanzo Allen, Aaron S. Everest, D. B. Johnson, Jr., and G. M. Cameron; three doctors, Orlenzer Allen, H. L. Coon and J. N. Wheat, and G. B. Hayes, Hanchett and Sprague, merchants; J. L. Davidson, John F. Cook, Luther S. Morgan, James C. Ackley and L. N. Griffith, town proprietors; Rev. Stephen Cook, Albert Galloway, S. W. Rice, Samuel Little, H. M. Allen and J. M. Berry, afterwards judge of the supreme court. That year there settled in the township, among others, Jacob S. Decker, W. A. Woodson, John Chandler, H. VanWinkle, John Watkins, Caleb Stock, Alfred Cressey, Thomas Bonnellie, John Rose, H. E. Case, Thomas Varco, H. G. Prouty and Welcome Osborne.

In the fall of 1855, Leverich, with the services of A. B. Vaughn as surveyor, staked out a village, including the village of Austin and Davidson's addition, but did not properly survey and record the same. Yates and Lewis had bought the $S\frac{3}{4}$ of B. J. Brown's claim, $NE\frac{1}{4}$ of 3, and tried in vain to have Leverich make the principal street on the quarter line of three, now West Main street. Leverich platted the sides of his lots clear up to the line. Yates and Lewis, with Moses Armstrong as surveyor, laid out their addition and Brown's, but in the evening, learning of the movements of Vaughn and Mason, platted Austin, consisting of blocks 1 to 6 in their addition, so as to be entirely surrounded by their future addition and coming only within a block of West Main street. Vaughn and Mason had bought in with Leverich, and in his absence learned of Armstrong's survey, completed their survey of the fall before and late in the evening. April 16, 1856, crossed the Cedar in a boat and started on foot for Frankford, the county seat, to file their plat. Yates, Lewis and Armstrong drew their plat, mounted horses, tried at various points to ford the swollen Cedar, gave it up, the night being very dark, staid all night at John Pettibone's in Lansing, crossed in his boat in the morning, swimming their horses behind, and passed Mason and Vaughn about four miles this side of Frankford. They found the justice absent, sent for Feleh, probate judge, and acknowledged and filed their plat. Vaughn and

Mason arrived half an hour late, altered their plat by dropping the forty that became Davidson's addition, and christened the other forty "Village of Austin," and filed two hours later.

Leverich's saw mill was the first business established. A. B. Vaughn and son, P. D., opened the first store in the spring of 1855, and sold out to Aloysius Brown in 1856. Yates & Lewis opened the second store; Sprague & Hanchett and the Kimballs opened stores soon after.

The growth of the town was from the mill westward on Water street and the street south. Yates and Lewis moved the few buildings erected in their town to the village. The increase in numbers was less in 1857 than in 1856. J. S. Lacy built the second hotel pretty well out of town, where the Fleck House stands. In 1858 was the first period of railroad construction. What is now the Milwaukee line from Minneapolis south was surveyed in 1857, and in 1858 graded for half the distance, not continuously, but in patches. Bank notes secured by bonds issued by the state for each ten miles of this grading, furnished circulating medium till they collapsed in the spring of 1859. The crops succumbed to the high water in the summer of 1858. A. Brown distributed the supply of flour and meal that kept the inhabitants alive. Most of it was drawn from Chatfield and Decorah, Iowa. The state of the roads was such that it often required many days to make the journey. When it was noised that teams were gone for a new supply, sacks and cash were deposited to make sure of a portion. The demand sometimes exceeded the supply, so that but ten or fifteen pounds could be allowed to a family. Gold would not buy more and everyone received in proportion to their family. Township and village together in 1860, 462; in 1865, 760; in 1870, 2,632, township being 592 and the village 2,040; in 1875, the village had 2,601; in 1880, 2,305; in 1885, 2,505; in 1890, 3,901; in 1895, 5,087; in 1900, 5,471; in 1905, 6,489; in 1910, 6,960.

LETTER FROM A. R. NICHOLS

In 1906, John H. Skinner wrote to A. R. Nichols, the first white settler on the present site of Austin, and asked his help in ascertaining certain facts. At that time Mr. Nichols was living at Nichols, Minn., of which he had previous to his resignation been postmaster for twenty years. In reply, Mr. Nichols gave the following interesting information: "I was born in the town of Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, June 13, 1814. In 1817 I was taken to Livingston county, in the same state, and in 1818 went by sleigh through Canada to Detroit, Mich., which at that time contained a complement of United States soldiers quar-

tered in the historic fort, and a few French settlers along the river. In the fall of that year we went back to Michigan and settled at the lakes on the Huron river. In 1841 we "set sail" in a prairie schooner for the West, crossing the Mississippi on Christmas day, 1841. Then I went to the lead mines in Galena, Ill., and worked five or six years, then came back to Iowa and spent a winter at Cedar Lake, hunting buffalo. The following summer I went to Cedar river at St. Ansgar. That summer the state line was located. That fall, 1852, and again the following fall, 1853, I hunted along the Cedar river, and possibly the first fall got as far north as Austin. When I reached Mower county in the late fall of 1853, there were only three settlers in this part of the county: Mr. Woodbury and his son-in-law, Mr. Pinkerton, at Woodbury creek, north of the Iowa state line, and O. P. Clark, in a shack to the north of what is now Austin. June 8, 1854, I drove the first claim stake in Austin, and a short time afterward, O. P. Clark brought his family and several head of cattle to his claim, which was above mine. The next settlers were Robert Dobbin, Miller Clayton and Mr. Pinkham. I sold to Mr. Leverich. Then I left Austin and went to Blue Earth river in Faribault county and settled down to farming until after the close of the war. I then sold out and went to Minneapolis, stayed there several years, and then came to Mille Laes lake, where I am at the present time."

PLATTING THE VILLAGE

In the fall of 1855, Chauncey Leverich and A. B. Vaughan staked out a village on the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 3, but did not properly survey and record the same. On April 16, 1856, J. B. Yates and V. P. Lewis procured the services of M. K. Armstrong, county surveyor, and commenced to plat a village on the northwest quarter of section 3. The survey was not completed until late that evening. Vaughan & Mason (the latter having bought an interest in the plat) saw Yates and Lewis at work. Their suspicions were at once aroused, and thinking to checkmate them they also effected a regular survey of the lands which they had staked off the previous autumn, and late in the evening Mason and Vaughan (Leverich being absent) crossed the Cedar river in a boat and started on foot to Frankford, the county seat, to file their plat ahead of Yates and Lewis. But the latter party, being fully equal to such an emergency, mounted their horses and rode up the river several miles, trying at various points to ford the swollen stream and get to the county seat in advance of them. The night being very dark, they finally stayed all night at John Pettibone's, in the township

of Lansing. In the morning Mr. Pettibone took them across the river in his boat, while they swam their horses behind. When they came within about four miles of Frankford they overtook Mason and Vaughan, who had started the night before on foot, and had spent the night upon the prairie, and when first seen were hurrying along at a rapid gait for the county seat, in order to have their plat placed on file first. Neither party had had their papers acknowledged by a justice of the peace, as was required by law, and when Yates and Lewis, who arrived at Frankford first, found that the justice of the peace was not at home, they sent for Judge C. J. Felch to come and acknowledge their papers that they might place them on record at once.

Vaughan and Mason arrived a half hour later, but were too late, as Yates and Lewis had filed a plat of "Austin." Two or three hours later Mason and Vaughan filed their plat as the "Village of Austin."

Recorded Plats—The following describes the filing of each plat in what now comprises Austin: Austin, Yates & Lewis, filed April 17, 1856; M. K. Armstrong, surveyor. Village of Austin, April 17, 1856; A. B. Vaughan, surveyor; proprietors, Washington Mason, Chauncey Leverich, A. B. Vaughan. Bolcom's Addition, August 25, 1856; N. F. Hilbret, surveyor. John M. Berry's Addition, October 7, 1856; D. B. Johnson and A. W. Billings, surveyors. Davidson & Morgan's Addition, March 17, 1857; D. B. Johnson, surveyor. Brown's Addition, August 6, 1857; Charles E. Carter, surveyor. Yates & Lewis' Addition, August 3, 1857; Daniel B. Johnson, surveyor. Parker & Brown's Addition, August 19, 1867; C. J. Shortt, surveyor. Railroad Addition, January 1, 1868; James A. Case and A. B. Rodgers, surveyors. Palmer's Addition, December 22, 1869; James A. Case, surveyor. Yates' Addition to Austin, December 17, 1872; George W. Clough, surveyor. Fay R. Smith's Addition, November 1, 1883; E. B. Crane, surveyor. Galloway's First Addition, April 8, 1872; Galloway's Second Addition, May 5, 1887; Galloway's Third Addition, May 16, 1887; Lewis Park Addition, July 4, 1887; Slaven's Addition, July 2, 1887; Duggan's Addition, December 31, 1887; outlots, section 10, November 21, 1887; Lake Park Addition, December 9, 1887; outlots, section 2, December 7, 1888; Oak Park addition, August 1, 1890; Ranney's Addition, June 6, 1891; West Park Addition, September 5, 1891; Woodlawn Park Addition, May 7, 1892; Hayes' Addition, May 31, 1892; outlots, section 11, June 13, 1893; outlots, section 26, June 13, 1893; outlots, section 2, June 13, 1893; Elmwood Addition, August 9, 1893; outlots, section 11, August 2, 1894; outlots, section 2, August 10, 1895; Galloway's Addition to West Park Addition, October 4, 1893; Varco's Addition to Austin, December 4, 1895;

outlots, section 9, December 31, 1895; outlots, section 2, April 22, 1896; outlots, section 2, May 18, 1896; irregular survey, in section 4, December 31, 1896; outlot, section 2, May 21, 1898; Jacob's Addition to Austin, June 24, 1899.

MURDER OF CHAUNCEY LEVERICH

In August, 1856, Chauncey Leverich, one of the first settlers of Austin, came to an untimely death at the hands of a crowd of drunken roughs. The affair has been generally believed to have happened in about the following manner: It took place at a saloon where the new Elk hotel now stands. The parties committing the crime were intoxicated and making loud noises and acting very boisterous about Mr. Leverich's place, and he finally put them out of doors and they began pounding the side of the building, whereupon Leverich went out determined to drive them away, but in the engagement he was struck by a bar of some kind, which fractured his skull. He lived about a week and was buried upon the corner of the same lot upon which his building stood. The parties charged with the crime of killing him were Horace Silver and William Oliver, who were tried for assault and battery, and fined respectively \$20 and \$10. Upon learning of Mr. Leverich's serious injury they both left the place.

S. D. Mead, a stepson of Horace Silver, one of the men who was convicted of the assault on Leverich, has the following to say of this tragic incident: "I was not in the saloon at the time of the affair which cost Leverich his life and my people their home, but I have my information from Autis, who was there and saw the trouble, as well as from my own people. This saloon row occurred, as most such affairs do, when the whiskey was flowing freely. Now this was a friendly gathering. Silver and Leverich were the best of friends, as were Oliver and Leverich. But this was the grand opening night of the saloon and free whiskey flowed plentifully. The crowd grew merry and was having all kinds of fun, but the fun, as is usual in such cases, soon turned into a row, which ended in a general fight, during which no one seemed to know or care who was hit or what they hit with. The consequence was that in the general melee Leverich received a blow which laid him out. I heard the trial of Silver and Oliver before Justice Smith, but there was no evidence produced to show who struck the blow or with what it was struck. My father always said he had no enmity against Leverich and always mentioned that he did not strike the fatal blow. He always said that the first he knew that Leverich was hurt he heard someone cry out in the crowd: 'For God's sake, stop the

row; Leverich is killed.' This was the story he still held to on his deathbed. After the trial he said that if Minnesota were a state and had state laws he would stay in Austin and stand trial. But it was a territory and he was told that he better get away or he might be lynched. So he and Oliver left on foot. My step-father walked all the way to Michigan, where his brother lived, and we neither saw nor heard from him for two years.

"After he had gone my mother was nearly insane with grief and anxiety. I worked and cared for mother and four children for nearly two years. I then disposed of our cattle and personal property and went back to Michigan. Our home in Austin was taken from us on an execution for a debt of \$15. Father then took his family and was a good father and husband as long as he lived. The loss of everything he owned, however, broke him all up and he was never the same man after the unfortunate affair took place. He died in Michigan in 1874 and my mother lived until 1886."

Samuel Rice is an early settler whose veracity is absolutely relied upon. His story differs decidedly from the other versions of the affair, is as follows: "In the summer of 1856 Chauncey Leverich built a store on the southeast corner of Bridge and Chatham streets, where subsequently stood the buildings until recently owned by D. B. Smith, which, after his death, were sold. He planned to open a saloon on the north side of the store and a grocery department on the south side. Samuel Rice had hauled the first load of groceries from Wabash, arriving the very evening of the murder. On the way to Austin the rear spring of his democrat wagon broke, so he removed it, and arriving at his destination left the spring outside of the building by the doorway. The store was unfinished. A carpenter bench stood in the center of the floor and rubbish lay about the place, which as yet had not been opened for business. Leverich had suggested that he and Mr. Rice go to a dance at Ed Merry's when the incident occurred which resulted instead in the death of Leverich. Horace Silver and William Oliver were lounging about. Leverich, smoking a cigar, seated himself on the carpenter bench near Silver, who carelessly picked up a chisel laying on the bench and deliberately knocked the cigar from Leverich's mouth, who exclaimed, 'Quit that!' bent down, picked up the cigar from the floor and resumed smoking. Silver knocked it out of his mouth a second time, at which Leverich became angry and swore that if he did it again he would lick him. Leverich put the cigar in his mouth again and Silver deliberately, when the opportunity presented itself, tapped the cigar with the tool again, sending it to the floor. Leverich swore violently, jumped up and struck Silver a blow which sent him staggering against the wall.

Oliver then stepped forward and taking hold of Leverich by the arm, said, 'Hold on, Chauncey; you are too hasty.' Leverich swung around, saying, 'You take it up, will you, ——— you,' and struck him a hard blow. Silver and Oliver went out of the store by the front door. A few minutes later they told Leverich to come out and they would fix him. It was a very dark night. One of them picked up the spring with the heavy wood piece attached, laying near the door, and when Leverich came out threw it at him, point first. The wood hit him over the eyes and crushed his skull. He fell, unconscious. Bystanders in the building lifted him up, carried him in and laid his senseless body on the buffalo robe spread on the carpenter bench. Dr. O. Allen was called, and under his direction Leverich was taken home.

"He died in about three days. In the meantime Oliver and Silver were arrested, arraigned before Justice Sylvester Smith, and fined \$15 and \$20, respectively. After the death of Leverich and before papers charging them with murder could be served, they escaped. Silver returned to town secretly some years later to settle his affairs. The body of Leverich was buried under the back window of his store. His wife moved to the rooms upstairs and for years the kitchen slops were thrown on his grave. Later it was disinterred by his heirs and moved away. Leverich was an extensive land owner and a prosperous, progressive man. He owned several sections of land and also city property, besides other interests. His wife, according to well authenticated reports, was deliberately robbed by several men of the town. The various pieces of land were auctioned off for but a fraction of their real value. Although Chauncey Leverich was a man of rough exterior, he was at heart good, and his progressive spirit might have done much for the growing town."

IMPORTANT EVENTS

The following accounts of important events of the early days are worthy of preservation in this work, as they recall pictures of life in the sixties and seventies, long since forgotten by all except the oldest inhabitants.

January 2 the Lake building, after having twice caught fire the previous day, was entirely consumed before help could be obtained to extinguish it. In the lower room was the store of Mr. Keeny. The most of his goods were saved. Upstairs was the photograph gallery of A. B. Davidson and the drug store of Morse, Daily & Co. All the stock of both firms was entirely consumed. The insurance on the gallery was \$150; on the drug store, \$400.

January 27, 1865, a schoolhouse situated a few miles south of

Austin, on Rose creek, was consumed by fire. The building was a small log structure. During the afternoon of the same day some timbers remaining from the fire were carried from the spot to Mr. Ames' house, near by, for fuel and placed in the woodshed, with the result that some smouldering embers caused the house to burn down.

On May 3, 1865, the residence of Jacob S. Decker, about two miles east of Austin, was destroyed by fire, together with nearly all its contents. The loss reached \$1,000; insurance, \$300. The fire originated in the roof.

On June 10, 1863, it is said by the Courier: "Horse thieves are getting very numerous in this section of the country and that portion of Iowa bordering on Fillmore, Mower and Freeborn counties in particular. We have had calls during the past week from no less than seven persons on the lookout for horses stolen. Three horses were stolen on Wednesday evening last from C. H. Owen and Daniel Ames, residents of Lyle township. They will get \$100 for the recovery of the horses and the thieves, or \$25 apiece for each horse or thief."

October 20, 1868, the Democrat said: "The Austin Academy and Commercial Institute, for ladies and gentlemen, will open without fail on Monday, October 26, 1868, in the third story of Hunt & Basford's brick block, corner of Main and Bridge streets, with J. H. Johnson as principal."

Austin's Disastrous Fire. March 3, 1869, Austin was visited by its first big fire. There was a strong wind blowing from the north at the time and the thermometer stood 15 to 18 degrees below zero, which tended to prevent the citizens from collecting as soon as would otherwise have been the case. However, quite a number were promptly on the ground, but the fire had got under such headway that it was found impossible to extinguish it with the facilities at hand. In three hours from the time the fire was first discovered four two-story brick buildings on the east side of Main street were burned to the ground, nothing being left but the demolished walls. The fire was first discovered in the dry goods store of Case & Shepley, the north building of the four, the direction from which the wind was blowing. How the fire originated was a mystery, but it was supposed it caught from the stove. Within a short time a crowd of three or four hundred persons were on the ground and it was decided as impossible to save the brick buildings, so the first thing to be done was to save the contents as far as possible and to prevent the fire from spreading. The major part of the dry goods and groceries of Messrs. Solner & Morgan were saved, and a few things from the second story over Paddock Bros.' store. Nearly all the contents

of the First National Bank building, consisting of the fixtures belonging to the bank and to the law and land office of Page & Wheeler were saved. The contents of the postoffice and Griffith's book store, also a portion of the dry goods and groceries of Austin & Richardson, and the liquors from the billiard saloon of W. Simpson were removed. The small frame building belonging to J. F. Atherton, and occupied by him as a grocery store, standing next door north of the row of brick buildings was promptly torn down and removed. Soon the fire reached the corner building and it was found necessary to tear away the small frame building occupied as a meat market to prevent the spread of the fire to the east along Bridge street. This was promptly done and the fire was confined to the brick structures. At the time the entire loss was estimated at from \$40,000 to \$50,000.

The following is a list of losses as published at the time of the conflagration: J. F. Atherton, one brick building and a small frame, household goods and part stock of groceries; insurance, \$2,200. Case & Shepley, stock of dry goods and groceries, books, papers, etc.; insurance, \$4,000. Creditors of Paddock Bros., stock of dry goods and groceries. Solner & Morgan, part of stock of dry goods and groceries; insurance, \$5,000. First National Bank, brick building, counters, etc.; insurance, \$2,000. Barnes & Baird, brick building; insurance, \$2,000. Lewis & Roberts, brick building; insurance, \$2,000. Dr. E. C. Dorr, dental tools and machinery, books, papers, etc. Dr. E. P. Hudson, dental tools, etc. Page & Wheeler, furniture, a few books, papers, etc. A. Galloway, frame building. Frederick & Sammons, a few tools, meat, etc. Mrs. Marshall and Miss Nerton, dressmakers, sustained some loss. J. Woodward and Mr. Carter lost their household goods. Dr. Barnes sustained some loss in his office. Austin & Richardson, W. Simpson, R. Griffith and Postmaster Phelps all sustained some loss by the removal of goods.

In June, 1869, complaint was made to Sheriff Mollison, by a gentleman from the rural districts, to the effect that a woman had stolen a horse from him, and giving a description of the woman and horse. It seems that before the woman had got a great distance from the starting place the horse escaped and came to town. The gentleman recovered his horse, and the thief was heard from, being in the country about three miles distant. The sheriff desired to let the woman come to town and claim the horse before arresting her, but was urged on until he proceeded into the country with papers and brought the woman to town and to trial. It seems that she "smelt a mice" and concluded that hers was a "horse of another color." She swore

that she had never seen the horse, which was alleged to have been stolen, and there being no proof, the horse not being found in her possession, she was discharged. The authorities came to the conclusion that it took a sharp man to trap a woman.

June 26, 1870, William Simpson was drowned in the Cedar river at Austin, just back of his residence, near the foot of St. Paul street.

On September 22, 1868, Henry Hyer, a boy about twelve years of age, was accidentally killed near the depot. The boy attempted to jump upon a handcar, when in motion, and the lever struck him on the head, crushing in his skull and killing him almost instantly.

In its issue of December 1, 1868, the Democrat contained the following item: "Three native Americans—no carpet-baggers—stopped at the Central House in this place last night. Two of them were chiefs of the Menominee nation, one of which killed five Sioux Indians in the war of 1862-63, fighting on the side of the whites. He has five marks made in India ink upon his arm to 'designate the fact.' The tribe lives upon the Black river, in Wisconsin. These chaps have been out west trapping, and are now returning to their tribe. They are very large, robust men, capable of taking care of a large amount of rations."

The Austin Democrat, February 23, 1869, states that "genuine stone coal has been found in Mower county." In that issue appears the following article: "Thomas Smith, of Windom township, in this county, has left with us a very fair sample of stone coal, and informs us that he has taken from the mine which he is now prospecting, some lumps as good as any ever taken from a Pennsylvania coal field. Mr. Smith is something of a geologist, and had discovered signs of coal on his place, in the bluff along Rose Creek, some time since, and a few days ago determined to investigate the matter and prospect for a large deposit which he had reason to believe existed in the vicinity. He employed an experienced miner, and the two went to work, tunneling into the bluff, and the present indications are that a rich bed of coal will soon be discovered. Two or three weeks more will tell the story. The importance which would attend the discovery of an extensive bed of coal in Windom, lying as it does, in the center of a large prairie country, could not be overestimated. * *

On April 1, 1870, Carl Chanbery, a young man who, the previous spring, had come with his aged mother from Sweden, and settled in Austin, was drowned in Cedar river.

On Sunday afternoon, July 17, 1870, David Caswell, a prominent citizen of LeRoy, left his residence for the purpose of looking at some grass land nearly a quarter of a mile distant on the farm, and as was sometimes his custom, took with him a double-

barreled shot gun. Later in the day his dead body was found with a shot gun wound in the left side, with every indication that the gun had gone off while he was in the act of loading it.

On August 14, 1870, a Norwegian named Jens Jenson, about 54 years of age, who lived a short distance from Adams station, committed suicide by hanging himself in a grove.

• On September 2, 1870, John Fredell, a Swede, 23 years of age, was drowned in the Cedar river. The young man had come from Minneapolis about three weeks before his death and had been in the employ of the railroad company. He had shown unmistakable signs of insanity.

On Monday, February 13, 1871, at between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, the warehouse of Guns & Anderson, at Brownsdale, was discovered to be on fire. The flames soon reached the warehouse of Mr. Rowell, and the building was entirely destroyed. The warehouse of Guns & Anderson contained 6,000 bushels of wheat, 3,300 bushels of flax seed, 1,000 pounds of tow, about 1,000 grain sacks, a fanning mill, and the articles usually kept about a grain warehouse. Nothing at all was saved and their loss was about \$13,000, which, however, was fully covered by insurance. Mr. Rowell's warehouse was empty at the time. The total loss on both was about \$15,000.

On February 20, 1871, Austin was visited by a disastrous fire. At about 1 o'clock the Fleck House was discovered to be on fire, and the flames spread so rapidly that it was impossible to save the building. There were about sixty persons in the house at the time, and all succeeded in making their escape. The property was valued at \$9,000, including the grounds, and was insured for \$3,500. The hotel at the time was under the management of George Hay, who had leased it and taken possession about ten days previous to the time of the fire. The fire caught from a defective flue.

On May 9, 1871, a fatal accident occurred at the depot of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. in Austin, resulting in the death of William Walsh.

On December 27, 1875, the iron foundry belonging to Geo. B. Wright, located on the east side, was burned to the ground. The cause of the fire was unknown. The building and contents were a total loss of about \$10,000. The foundry was the only one in the city, and its loss not only fell heavily upon its owners but upon the business interests of Austin as well.

On the morning of December 30, 1873, the building on the corner of Chatham and Mill streets, occupied by the store of the Farmers and Mechanics Grocery Association, was burned to the ground. A portion of the goods was removed. There was an insurance on the stock of \$2,000.

On April 22, 1873, Ole Gordon, of Northwood, Iowa, was instantly killed while grinding plows in the shop of Seymour Johnson, in Austin, by the bursting of the revolving stone. One fragment weighing nearly 500 pounds, struck the unfortunate man in the forehead, at the corner of the right eye, and carried away a large portion of his skull and scattered his brains over the entire room. It passed through one end of the building and struck in the street some sixty feet distant. The stone was entirely new and, as far as could then be discovered, perfectly sound. It was driven by horse power, and at no more than the usual speed.

The month of January, 1877, was a disastrous one in Austin, three fires occurring within six days. The first of these took place on the morning of January 13, when six stores and one shop were cleaned out, the historic row of wooden buildings, long landmarks in Austin, on the west side of Main street being laid in ashes. Buildings on the east side of the street were also damaged by an explosion of powder in one of the burning buildings. The total loss was about \$13,000, the firm of Hazelwood & Tuttle being the heaviest losers. On the same day a dwelling house on Maple street, owned by C. W. Freeman and occupied by W. D. Phillips, was entirely consumed. Four days later three frame buildings on the corner of Mill and Chatham streets, owned by A. Matson, were destroyed.

On October 5, 1880, Austin was visited by a fire that laid in waste four business buildings and caused a loss of about \$24,000. F. A. Richardson, dry goods, and Fernald & Kimball, furniture, were the heaviest losers. Others who lost were Ferd. Kirchhoff, meats; Mrs. R. I. Smith, millinery; J. E. Slocum, sewing machine agent; Dr. J. N. Wheat; L. N. Griffith; J. J. Hayes & Bro., jewelry; Clemmer & Pooler; Mrs. N. C. McMillan, millinery; Mrs. John Morrison, restaurant.

The Temperance Leagues, among the ladies, were powerful influences toward preserving the law and order of the community in the early days. In writing on this subject in 1876, Mrs. R. L. Kimball said:

The crusade against whisky began in Austin in the winter of 1856. At that time not a saloon was to be found in the place, but at some of the stores intoxicants could be purchased. Accordingly the women started a crusade and threatened to boycott merchants who sold strong drinks. To this agreement thirty-two ladies—at that time all but three of them lady residents of Austin—subscribed their names. Twenty-eight of these names have been preserved, and are as follows: Imogene A. Kimball, Hattie A. Adams, Hannah E. Leverich, Jennett W. Cook, Julia A. Wheat, Triphena Griffith, Lucy L. Wheeler, Bettie M. Vandegrift, Eleanor Bemis, Sarah E. Bemis, Cornelia Benson, Mary

Ann H. Decker, Amanda Adams, Elizabeth Brown, Mary McDaniels, Eunice L. Smith, Lois Brown, Martha L. Sanford, Emma Allen, Almeda E. Allen, Mary A. Colwell, Eliza A. Allen, Maria M. Everest, Mary A. Padden, Naomi M. Revord, Harriet Ferris, Eliza A. McKinley, Elizabeth Tubbs. The merchants were then visited and asked to pledge themselves not to sell liquors. Three signatures were obtained, Rufus L. Kimball, W. I. Brown, and Aloysius Brown. In 1857, a Ladies' Temperance Society was organized by Mrs. J. L. Davidson.

The Father Matthew Temperance Society was organized February 5, 1871, with eighteen charter members. February 19, they decided to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, and appointed a committee to make arrangements. The committee deciding to have a banner called on the printers but failed to obtain satisfactory samples for even a temporary article. Mrs. W. I. Brown's proposal to embroider one, with green silk on white merino, was accepted, and work commenced. They were soon out of silk and sent a sample to St. Paul, but found none there. A few skeins were found in McGregor, but not enough. Luckily, Mrs. Osear Ayers had enough to complete it. The committee found it necessary to employ all the ladies they could to get it completed in time, and their fingers wrought on each successive letter until the "Father Matthew Temperance Society of Austin" was complete. Mrs. L. A. Sherwood was among these ladies. At the first annual convention held in St. Paul, February 12, 1872, the society joined the state union with only eight members. The majority of those lost were by resignation or non-payment of dues, and not for violation of pledge, which has been the case up to this time. At the second convention the society won the Gold Medal for having gained the greatest percentage of membership of any society in the State, being 100 per cent. At the third convention, held at Winona, May 6, 1874, the society had seventy-five members, but lost the medal, it being won by Father Ostar's Society of Belle Plaine. At the fourth convention, in Faribault, June 18, 1875, Austin reported sixty-eight members. The Catholic church at Austin has still a strong Total Abstinence Society.

The Sewing Societies of Austin have always been an important factor in its charitable and social life. In 1876, Mrs. W. W. Brownson spoke as follows in regard to those at that time in existence:

One can scarcely estimate all that has been accomplished and all we enjoy today that has been obtained through the persevering efforts of little bands of ladies in our different churches, known and often spoken of derisively as sewing societies. To them is due the credit of many of the comfortable surroundings of our churches, the result of something very different from

gossip. In early times, while men were anxiously planning and toiling to secure comparatively comfortable homes for their families, and provide houses of worship, their wives and daughters were not idle. They organized sewing societies with good results. The ladies of the Methodist church organized the first one in Austin, May 17, 1865, since which time it has furnished \$1,500 of the money raised by the society for church erection and charitable purposes.

June 12, 1865, the ladies of the Baptist church organized their sewing society, and in less than two years it raised and paid \$125 of the expense of the bell to their church edifice and other purposes.

November 8, 1865, the ladies of the Congregational church organized their sewing society, which has contributed about \$2,200 to the charitable and other objects of the church. A Circle of Industry, belonging to the church, has also raised \$550 to apply on the purchase of the bell.

The Busy Bees, a society of children, organized in the fall of 1874, for the purchase of chandeliers for the church, have raised, through public entertainments and fairs, \$40.

In 1868 the ladies' sewing society of the Presbyterian church was organized, but there are no records of its work until 1870, between which time and May, 1873, it raised for church purposes \$330. Since then the sewing society has had no existence.

In 1865 the ladies of the Episcopal church organized their society, which has since had a vigorous existence, but no records have been kept, and I am unable to give results.

The Universalist sewing society was organized in 1868, and has earned \$360.

The Universalist Sunday School Gleaners, a society organized in 1875, for the purchase of a Sabbath School library, have raised \$60 toward their object.

The ladies of the Lutheran church, soon after its organization, organized a sewing society, which existed about a year and a half. They raised \$75, which was paid toward the debt of the church.



LYMAN D. BAIRD.

CHAPTER XVII

MUNICIPAL AUSTIN.

Incorporation of the Village in 1868—Incorporated as a City—Changes in Charter—Elective and Appointed Officers Who Have Served the Municipality—Important Acts of the Successive Councils—Home Rule Charter Adopted—Edited by John H. Skinner.

In the early part of 1868, the people living in the hamlet of Austin began to feel the need of a government other than the supervisor system under which hamlet and township in common had been existing. Consequently a petition was circulated among the citizens and presented to the legislature, asking for a village government. There being no real opposition to the measure the act was passed March 6, 1868, and a tract of land taking in the hamlet and lying west of the Red Cedar river in the north-central part of the township was duly set aside and incorporated as the village of Austin.

The act provided that Tyler W. Woodward, William L. Austin and Jeremiah B. Yates should act as judges of the election, which was ordered to be held May 5. The charter authorized the election of a mayor, a recorder, an assessor, a justice of the peace who should be village justice and three aldermen. The aldermen and mayor were to appoint a treasurer, a marshal, an overseer for each of road districts into which the village should be divided, an attorney and a village surveyor.

At that time factional feeling ran high in city and county and a fusion ticket, proposed by some of the more conservative minds, did not materialize. Instead, there were two Republican and one Democratic ticket in the field. One Republican party, which will be here designated as the independent Republican party, held a caucus without having published a formal call, and nominated a ticket. Another faction, which will be here designated as the regular Republicans, held a meeting in pursuance to a call, and nominated a ticket, taking W. L. Austin from the independent ticket and placing him in nomination as mayor, and also borrowing the name of Seymour Johnson from the independent ticket and nominating him as alderman. The independents then informally nominated two other candidates for aldermen to take the place of the Messrs. Austin and Johnson. The Democrats nominated a regular ticket.

The Republican party, which had the majority of votes in the city, being thus split, lost the election. There were some

charges of fraud, it being alleged that many of those voting were railroad men who were not, in the strict meaning of the word, residents of Austin. G. M. Cameron was elected mayor. W. L. Austin, the regular Republican, received 126 votes and Dr. O. W. Gibson, the independent Republican, received fifty-six. B. J. VanValkenburgh, with 166 votes, and J. B. Yates, with 159 votes, were elected aldermen. C. C. Hunt, with 150 votes, was tied with Jacob Johnson for alderman, with 150 votes. Of the other two regular Republicans, E. P. VanValkenburgh received 137 votes and Seymour Johnson 125. Of the independent Republicans, H. W. Page received sixty-two votes. C. M. Fernald, forty-three, and A. Matson, thirty-nine. For recorder, George Baird, Republican, received 155 votes and L. R. Hathaway, Democrat, 188, the latter being elected. E. Maloney, Democrat, was elected assessor with 161 votes, against J. C. Ackley, regular Republican, who received 118 votes, and J. F. Atherton, independent Republican, who received sixty-two. L. N. Griffith, Democrat, was elected village and civil justice, with 166 votes. C. J. Shortt, regular Republican, received 135, and Robert Mathes, independent Republican, received thirty-two. The Democrats thus appear to have won out for every office. A vote was also cast for civil justice and constables, though no provision for such election was made in the charter.

The first meeting of the Austin village council was held in the law office of Cameron & Johnson, May 16, 1868. The council was called to order by Mayor Cameron, and Aldermen B. J. VanValkenburgh and J. B. Yates were present. By reason of the tie vote, the office of the third alderman was declared unfilled, and the appointment of Jacob Johnson was made to fill the vacancy, whereupon Mr. Johnson took his seat. The following appointments were made: Treasurer, William I. Brown; attorney, A. S. Everest; surveyor, D. B. Johnson; marshal, Carlos Fenton. The road overseers were selected as follows: 1, east of Main street, W. T. Manderville; 2, south of Maple and west of Main; 3, north of Maple and west of Main, James Kennevan. Fire limits were established, and a lock-up provided for.

In 1868, about the time of incorporation, the village contained six churches, two schoolhouses, one of which was a brick structure, costing about \$6,000, two newspapers, nine dry goods stores, four grocery stores, three drug stores, four hardware stores, two clothing stores, one book store, two confectionery stores, three boot and shoe stores, four millinery stores, two jewelry stores, four flour and feed stores, and one agricultural store. In the manufacturing line there were one plow manufactory, one foundry and machine shop, one planing mill, one sash and blind factory, one steam sawmill, three flouring mills, three brick yards, four lum-

ber yards, one carriage shop and two furniture manufactories. There were also two livery stables, three restaurants and three billiard halls. Already four large business blocks had been built. There were six flourishing churches, one Masonic lodge, one lodge of Odd Fellows and two bodies of Good Templars. H. W. Page had a bank here, three good hotels were in operation, and the C., M. & St. Paul was still the only railroad, although there were rumors of many others.

In 1869 an amendment to the charter passed the legislature, providing, among other changes, for the election by the people of a mayor, recorder, assessor, justice of the peace who should be village justice, two other justices of the peace, a marshal, a city treasurer, and three aldermen. A road overseer, a village attorney and a village surveyor were to be appointed.

At the election of 1869, two tickets were presented. The People's Reform ticket was largely a temperance move, while the opposition party called itself the Citizens' Union ticket. W. L. Austin headed the People's Reform ticket, P. B. Basford was nominated for mayor on the Citizens' Union ticket, and John F. Cook was the rallying point of those who favored neither of these parties. With two exceptions, the entire People's Reform ticket was elected as follows: Mayor, W. L. Austin; aldermen, A. J. Phelps, J. S. Day and Orlenzer Allen; recorder, L. Bouregard; treasurer, Stephen M. Darrah; marshal, Henry J. Gillham (Gillham ran on the Citizens' Union ticket and defeated Andrew Knox); assessor, E. Maloney; "city and civil justice," C. L. Chase; "civil justice," J. H. McClentie (McClentie ran on the Citizens' Union ticket and defeated W. L. Manderville of the People's Reform ticket and B. J. Jones, who ran independently). The charter of the village provided for the election of a village justice and two justices of the peace, and it will be seen that neither the designation nor the number of justices elected agreed with the charter. A village surveyor and constables were also voted for, although there was no provision for such balloting in the charter, and in spite of the fact that it had expressly been provided that the village surveyor should be appointed and not elected. E. D. Fenton and George Litchfield were the two receiving votes for the office of constable, and S. Burke was the only one voted for as village surveyor. The council, at its first meeting, showed a like disregard for the charter, when three road overseers instead of one were appointed as follows: 1, J. F. Keyser; 2, A. S. Hall; 3, J. C. Smith. D. B. Johnson, Jr., was appointed attorney. Later McClentie was replaced by W. T. Manderville as "Civil Justice," Hall was replaced by O. W. Firkins as road overseer of district No. 2; and D. B. Johnson, Jr., was replaced by A. S. Everest as attorney. January 18, 1870, Orlenzer

Allen resigned as alderman and was replaced by W. W. Brownson, and on July 3, 1870, Sylvester Smith took the place of Alderman Day, who also resigned.

In 1870 the charter was still further amended. It was provided that the village limits should be all of section 3, the northwest quarter of section 2, and the west half of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 2, all in township 102, range 18. It was also provided that there should be elected a mayor, three aldermen, two justices of the peace (to serve for two years), a recorder, an assessor, a treasurer, and two constables (to serve for two years). The marshal, the attorney and the road overseer were to be appointed by the council.

The election of 1870 resulted in a victory of a Union ticket over the Republican and Independent tickets, the entire Union ticket, with the exception of one constable, being elected as follows: Mayor, J. F. Cook; aldermen, W. W. Brownson, P. B. Basford and H. S. Smith; recorder, John Walsh; treasurer, I. A. Wood; assessor, R. I. Smith; justices, A. J. Phelps and W. H. Merrick; constables, O. J. Johnson (Republican) and T. K. Kaiser. The council appointed G. M. Cameron, village attorney; John Minette, marshal; H. L. Percival, road overseer. I. A. Wood died October 11, and G. G. Clemmer was named in his place as village treasurer.

In 1871, the village received practically a new charter. The people were to elect six aldermen, three justices of the peace, three constables and one assessor. The six aldermen, who were to represent the three wards into which the village was divided, were to appoint a president, a recorder and a treasurer from their own number, and in addition to this were to name road overseers, attorney, marshal and printer.

For the first time, the election was held in each of the three wards. In the first ward, where three tickets, Citizens', Republican and Democratic, were presented, the Citizens' ticket won, and Sylvester Smith and L. N. Griffith were elected aldermen. In the second ward the Democratic candidates, H. J. Gillham and J. H. C. Huxhold, won against the Republican candidates. In the third ward the Republicans won out against the Democrats and elected E. W. Kells and Charles Cook. William Richards, Democrat, was elected assessor. At the organization of the council, Sylvester Smith was appointed president, L. N. Griffith, recorder, and H. J. Gillham, treasurer. The following appointments were also made: Road overseers: 1, T. Hinchey; 2, ——— Brewer; 3, R. J. Tyler; attorney, G. M. Cameron; marshal, Carlos Fenton. During the year, Kells resigned as alderman, and on December 1, 1871, his place was taken by T. W. Hazleton.

In 1872, the charter was again amended. The amendment took the appointive power practically out of the hands of the council. The people were to elect six aldermen, three justices of the peace, three constables, one assessor, one street commissioner, one village attorney and three road overseers, while the council was to select from its own numbers a president, a recorder and a treasurer.

The election was devoid of much of the discord that had characterized the previous selection of officers. A straight Republican ticket was placed in nomination against Citizens', People's and Democratic tickets. The following officers were elected: At large: J. M. Greenman; assessor, D. J. Tubbs; street commissioner, J. B. Yates. First ward, aldermen, G. G. Clemmer and Seymour Johnson; justice of the peace, W. H. Merrick; constable, W. B. Graham; road overseer, Thomas Hinchy. Second ward, aldermen, H. J. Gillham and J. H. C. Huxhold (Huxhold, W. T. Wilkins and N. K. Noble were tied, but upon the casting of lots the choice fell upon Huxhold); justice of the peace, T. W. Woodward; constable, James Konkel; road overseer, Patrick Garaghty. Third ward, aldermen, W. W. Brownson and G. L. Scofield; justice of the peace, Jesse Rose; constable, John Minette; road overseer, Thomas Hinchy. The only ones elected on the straight Republican ticket were Rose, Clemmer and Whipple. Brownson, Scofield and Minette were elected on a straight Democratic ticket. The others were elected on People's or Citizens' tickets, or in the case of the three officers at large, on a combined Democratic, People's and Citizens' ticket. At the organization of the council, G. G. Clemmer was made president; Seymour Johnson, recorder, and W. W. Brownson, treasurer. Mr. Clemmer resigned July 22, and his place was taken by A. J. Phelps; Mr. Scofield resigned April 22, and his place was taken by F. A. Engle.

February 23, 1873, the village charter was amended in several particulars, and the word "city" substituted throughout for "village." Each ward was to have three aldermen, one constable and one overseer of roads. There were to be elected at large a city recorder, a city treasurer, a street commissioner, a city attorney and a city assessor.

Two tickets were in the field, one put up by the Republicans and the other by a mixture of Democrats and Republicans, called the People's ticket. The latter was victorious, with the exception of one alderman each, in the second and third wards respectively, and the city attorney. These candidates were tied in the returns, but as two votes had been cast for I. M. Hawkins the judges decided to regard the intention, and counted these votes in favor of I. N. Hawkins, giving him the election by two votes

over J. N. Greenman. The ticket elected follows: At large: Attorney, I. N. Hawkins; treasurer, W. T. Wilkins; recorder, O. H. Shepley; assessor, D. T. Tubbs; street commissioner, C. P. Kenyon. First ward, aldermen, P. O. French, A. Frederich and C. N. Beiseker; road overseer, Geo. B. Morse; constable, Knut Goodson. Second ward, aldermen, Peter Gies, D. B. Smith and H. A. Fairbanks; road overseer, P. Geraghty. Third ward, aldermen, J. H. Benson, L. B. Abbott and J. H. Totten; justice of the peace, John Houk; road overseer, A. Whipple; constable, John Minette. It will be seen that only the third ward voted for a justice, and practically only the third ward for constable, Mr. Goodson receiving but six votes. The council selected D. B. Smith as president. J. H. Totten resigned October 6, and his place was filled November 4, by T. F. Armstrong; O. H. Shepley resigned October 6 and his place was filled November 4, by Russ B. Davis; Isaac N. Hawkins resigned October 13, and his place was filled November 4, by G. M. Cameron.

In 1874 and 1875 there were no changes in the city charter.

In 1874, two tickets were in the field. One was designated as the "Anti-Monopolists'" and the other as the "People's." In the third ward, the former party only was in the field, though there were several independent candidates in the field in that ward. A preconcerted effort was made throughout the city to defeat the Anti-Monopolists' candidates for justice of the peace in all the wards, but the effort was successful only in the second ward, where R. I. Smith defeated T. W. Woodard. The ticket elected was as follows: Recorder, R. B. Davis; city attorney, G. M. Cameron; city assessor, William Richards; city treasurer, C. W. Austin; street commissioner, Christian Johnson; aldermen, John F. Cook, Seymour Johnson and B. F. Morgan; J. C. Kaiser, R. N. Paden and D. B. Smith; J. F. Atherton, John Bache and John Varger; justices of the peace L. N. Griffith, R. I. Smith and J. S. Putnam; constables, William Olson, George Martin and John Minette; road overseers; R. J. Tyler, P. Geraghty and J. Gallagher. Bache resigned and Varger did not qualify. An election was held April 17 to fill the vacancies, and Thomas Meany and C. B. Slade were elected. The president of the council this year was D. B. Smith.

In 1875, the following officers were elected: Recorder, Robert Griffith; city attorney, John T. Carey; treasurer, Rudolph Dunkelmann; assessor, John Walsh; street commissioner, John F. Cook; aldermen, R. O. French, O. E. Anderson, A. Friedrich; E. C. Dorr, F. J. Mayhew, D. B. Smith, Michael Collins, Charles B. Slade, D. G. Wachlin; road overseers, S. Gates, Patrick Geraghty, Patrick Conlon; constable, C. H. Gatfield.

The incorporation of the city of Austin really dates from

February 28, 1876, although the name "city" had been used since 1873. The new city charter described the limits of the city as follows: The north half of section 3; all the south half of section 3 lying west of the Cedar river; all that part of the southwest quarter of section 2, surveyed and platted as part of Balcom's addition to the village of Austin; the northwest quarter of section 2; and the west half of the northeast quarter of section 2, all in township 102, north of range 18, west. There were to be three wards, one on the west side of the Red Cedar, and two on the east side, divided by the center line of Bridge and Center streets. There were to be elected a mayor, treasurer, recorder and one assessor, at large; and from each ward, two aldermen, one justice of the peace and one constable.

The election took place March 12. Not for several years had there been exhibited so great an interest in a local election. There were two tickets in the field, the People's and the Republican. In the first and third wards the former ticket won out, while in the second the latter triumphed, with the exception of the constable. W. T. Wilkins, the candidate for treasurer on the People's ticket, threw his influence on the side of the opposing candidate, but even then was defeated by but one vote. The following were elected, all being on the People's ticket unless otherwise indicated. At large: Mayor, P. O. French; assessor, William Richards (Republican); recorder, Robert Griffith (no opposition); treasurer, R. Dunkelman. First ward, Joseph Schwan, H. E. Anderson, aldermen; L. N. Griffith, justice; Thomas Riley (independent), constable. Second ward, E. P. VanValkenburgh, Oscar Ayers (both Republican), aldermen; T. W. Woodard (Republican), justice; James Konkle, constable. Third ward, Thomas Meany, Lewis Beekel, aldermen; J. S. Putnam, justice; John Minette, constable. The office of Lewis Beekel was taken in January, 1877, by C. C. Kinsman. Patrick Geraghty was appointed street commissioner and Thomas Riley, chief of police.

The election of 1877 was quiet, and while there were two tickets in the field, the candidates for most of the important offices were identical on both sides. In the second ward, Joseph Reinsmith and E. J. Phillips were tied for alderman, and by lot the choice fell on the former. It was also found that the electors had made a mistake in the middle initial of C. A. Pooler, but that matter was also satisfactorily settled. The following officers were elected: Mayor, E. C. Dorr; treasurer, C. A. Pooler; assessor, Robert McDonald; recorder, Robert Griffith; aldermen first ward, George H. Wilbour; second ward, Joseph Reinsmith; third ward, C. C. Kinsman. Aldermen Schwan, VanValkenburgh and Meany held over from the previous year.

In 1878 the question of license and no license was the principal issue, the temperance people winning out on the no license proposition by a vote of 406 to 155. Republican and Democratic tickets were in the field. In the following list of officers the word "Union" does not signify a Union ticket, but indicates that the candidate mentioned was nominated on both tickets: Mayor, E. P. VanValkenburgh (Union); recorder, Robert Griffith (Union); treasurer, C. A. Pooler (Republican); assessor, Oscar Ayers (Republican). First ward, aldermen, J. B. Yates (Democrat); justice, L. N. Griffith (Democrat); constable, Thomas Riley (Union). Second ward, aldermen, James McGrath (Union); justice, N. K. Noble (Republican); constable, R. J. McDonald (Republican). Third ward, aldermen, Thomas Meany (Democrat); justice, Jesse Rose (Republican); constable, John Minette (Democrat). Aldermen Wilbour, Reinsmith and Kinsman held over from the previous year. J. B. Yates retired October 21, 1878, and his place was taken by Seymour Johnson. Joseph Reinsmith retired the same date and his office was filled by E. C. Dorr. Patrick Geraghty, who was appointed street commissioner, resigned July 1, and his place was taken by J. Woodard. Thomas Riley was chief of police.

In 1879 the city went back to the license plan, the vote being 283 to 239. The People's ticket was victorious, with the exception of one instance in the second ward, where H. W. Page, the temperance candidate, won out over W. L. Hollister. The entire list of officers for the year 1879 is as follows: Mayor, H. B. Ball; aldermen, Seymour Johnson (held over), George E. Wilbour, James McGrath (held over), Harlan W. Page, Thomas Meany (held over), and Jacob Weisel; recorder, Robert Griffith; treasurer, C. A. Pooler; assessor, Oscar Ayers; street commissioner, T. K. Keyser; chief of police, Thomas Riley.

In 1880, the officers of the city were as follows: Mayor, H. B. Ball; treasurer, Fay R. Smith; recorder, Robert Griffith; assessor, E. D. Fenton; aldermen, Peter Gies, E. J. Phillips, A. Fairbanks; justices, L. N. Griffith, N. K. Noble, E. H. Gerard; constables, Thomas Riley, James Konkle, John Minette. The vote in favor of license was 249 to 180. The hold-over aldermen were George E. Wilbour, Harlan W. Page and Jacob Weisel. The place of A. Fairbanks was taken by D. J. Ames, May 7, 1880. Patrick Geraghty was appointed street commissioner and Thomas Riley chief of police.

In 1881, the Republican ticket was elected throughout, with the exception of one alderman in the first ward, George W. Fish being elected over George E. Wilbour. The complete list of officers follows: Mayor, E. C. Dorr; recorder, Robert Griffith; treasurer, F. R. Smith; assessor, Joseph Adams; aldermen, George

W. Fish, R. O. Hall, Jacob Weisel. Vote in favor of court house bonds, 398 to 14; vote in favor of license, 246 to 106. Aldermen Gies, Phillips and Ames held over. The street commissioner and chief of police were the same as during the previous year.

In 1882, the following officers were elected: Mayor, E. C. Dorr; treasurer, Fay R. Smith; assessor, G. E. Wilbour; recorder, Robert Griffith; aldermen, Orris Hayes, E. J. Phillips, Thomas Meany; justices, L. N. Griffith, N. K. Noble and J. B. Waddick; constables, Thomas Riley, Y. T. Cameron and William Way.

In 1883 the officers elected were: Mayor, E. C. Dorr; assessor, George E. Wilbour; treasurer, J. H. Patterson; recorder, Robert Griffith; aldermen, H. S. Smith, R. O. Hall, J. Weisel. A. Frederick, who was nominated for mayor, declined to run.

In 1884, E. C. Dorr was again elected. The other officers elected were: Assessor, G. E. Wilbour; treasurer, J. H. Patterson; recorder, Robert Griffith; justices, James D. Sheedy and N. K. Noble; aldermen, Ed. A. Dallager, Geo. H. Litchfield and C. J. Miller; constables, Thomas Riley, Y. T. Cameron and William H. Way.

In 1885, Lafayette French became mayor. The other officers elected were: Recorder, Robert Griffith; treasurer, J. H. Patterson; assessor, F. K. Keyser; aldermen, Joseph Adams, P. C. Sullivan and H. Herzog.

In 1886 all the Republican candidates were elected except one, A. H. Loucks, a Democrat, being elected treasurer. The full list of officers elected consisted of: Mayor, Lafayette French; recorder, Robert Griffith; treasurer, A. H. Loucks; assessor, George E. Wilbour; aldermen, C. H. Davidson, Andrew Knox, C. J. Miller; justices, N. K. Noble, M. J. Engle, J. D. Sheedy; constables, Thomas Riley, John Beckel, William Way.

In 1887 the new charter provided for the election of an alderman at large as well as one from each of the wards. The officers elected were: Mayor, Lafayette French; recorder, J. H. Makepeace; treasurer, A. H. Loucks; assessor, George E. Wilbour; aldermen, C. N. Beiseker, L. E. Day, B. W. Lovell, D. A. McFadden; constables (to fill vacancies), E. R. Earl, John Beckel.

In 1888, the Democrats elected a mayor and the alderman at large. The officers elected were: Mayor, O. W. Gibson; recorder, Johan Wold; assessor, George E. Wilbour; treasurer, N. F. Banfield; aldermen, William Todd, Seymour Johnson, C. L. West, C. J. Miller; justices, James Sheedy, N. K. Noble, E. Myers; constables, C. Ed Clark, Jerry Ingalls, John Beckel. The council elected Patrick Geraghty street commissioner. Mayor Gibson nominated Y. T. Cameron chief of police, but the council refused to confirm the appointment. As soon as the vote was announced, Mayor Gibson nominated J. H. Makepeace for the place and he

also failed of confirmation, so Jerry Ingalls continued to hold the office of chief of police. Dr. Phillips resigned as chairman of the board of health and Dr. J. N. Wheat was appointed to fill the vacancy. It was in this year that Ira Padden, who for so many years represented the third ward, came to the city council. A special election was held on April 19 of this year to elect an alderman. Thomas Meany received 102 votes and William Dugan 103 votes. When the council came to canvass the vote, it passed a resolution declaring the election invalid; the returns appeared illegal on the face. Another election was held May 1, when Ira Padden secured all but seven of the votes cast at the election. J. M. Greenman was elected city attorney and superintendent of the water works. J. H. Makepeace, who failed to become chief of police, was made fire marshal July 6.

In 1889, the following ticket was elected: Mayor, O. W. Gibson; alderman at large, T. F. Leonard; treasurer, N. F. Banfield; assessor, George E. Wilbour; recorder, Johan Wold; aldermen, L. E. Day, E. J. Phillips, Ira Padden; justice of the peace, E. Myers. Appointments were made as follows: Chief of police, J. E. Ingalls; J. M. Greenman, city attorney and superintendent of the water works; E. J. Ames, fire marshal. Alderman Phillips resigned November 1, and B. W. Lovell was chosen by the council to fill the vacancy.

In 1890 the ticket elected was: Mayor, O. W. Gibson; treasurer, N. F. Banfield; assessor, George E. Wilbour; recorder, Johan Wold; aldermen, Joseph Adams, Seymour Johnson, C. L. West, J. T. Sargent, L. G. Campbell; justices, J. D. Sheedy, N. K. Noble, F. H. Stokes; constables, F. Riley, J. E. Ingalls, John Beekel. The following appointments were made: Joseph Lamping, street commissioner; E. J. Ames, fire marshal. October 3, Lamping resigned and E. J. McGovern was elected to fill the vacancy. Greenman continued to hold the offices of superintendent of water works and city attorney and Ingalls was chief of police.

In 1891, the following ticket was elected: Mayor, C. H. Johnson; treasurer, N. F. Banfield; assessor, George E. Wilbour; recorder, Johan Wold; aldermen, Joseph Adams, L. A. Foots, J. T. Sargent, Ira Padden; justices of the peace, W. H. Hazel, W. W. Ranney. The following appointments were made: J. M. Greenman, city attorney and superintendent of water works; Jerry Ingalls, chief of police; E. J. Ames, fire marshal; E. J. McGovern, street commissioner. William Todd was appointed to succeed M. Becker, chief engineer of the water works. This year the council voted to use the old Methodist church for a city hall. The building stood on the site of the Carnegie Public

Library. The question of liquor license had been submitted to the people, the vote being, for license 498, and against 119.

In 1892, the officers elected were: Mayor, C. H. Johnson; treasurer, N. F. Banfield; assessor, G. E. Wilbour; recorder, Johan Wold; aldermen, Joseph Adams, John Robertson, Wilson Beach (for one year), H. S. Merrill (for two years), L. G. Campbell; justices of the peace, C. J. Short, W. W. Ranney, F. H. Stokes; constables, Frank Riley, J. E. Ingalls, Grant Miller. The following appointments were made: City attorney and superintendent of water works, J. M. Greenman; fire chief, E. J. Ames; street commissioner, E. J. McGovern; chief of police, Jerry Ingalls. On May 20, Alderman Foote resigned and George Burnham was elected by the council to fill the vacancy. H. S. Merrill also resigned from the board and T. F. Leonard was elected by the council to fill the vacancy. It is interesting to know that the council passed the first street-paving resolution and also inaugurated the present sewer system as mapped out by Expert Engineer Tchirgi.

In 1893, the following officers were elected and appointments made: Mayor, C. H. Johnson; recorder, Johan Wold; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, George E. Wilbour; aldermen, E. C. Dorr, A. W. Wright, T. F. Leonard (to fill vacancy), R. E. Shepherd, Ira Padden; constable, third ward, N. N. Wilsey. For license 395, against 233. City attorney and superintendent of water works, J. M. Greenman; fire marshal, Thomas Dugan; chief of police, J. E. Ingalls; street commissioner, Chris Hanson; chairman board of health, Dr. Wheat. The records show that on May 5, James M. Galt became chief of police.

Up to this time Austin had used the ordinary kerosene lamps for street lights and each council was called upon to decide who should be official lamp lighter from among a large number of applicants. In the summer of 1893, a private concern known as the Austin Electric Light Company asked the city to enter into a contract for lighting the city with electricity. This innovation met with unanimous approbation of the council and the official lamp lighter, like Othello, lost his occupation.

In 1894, a Republican mayor was elected for the first time in seven years, being placed in office by a majority of twenty-five votes, out of 1,049 cast. The complete ticket elected was: Mayor, Lyman D. Baird; recorder, Johan Wold; treasurer, H. L. Banfield; assessor, J. C. Belding; aldermen, Jacob Weisel, John Robertson, Henry Curtis, John Gulden; justices, J. E. Robinson, W. W. Ranney, F. H. Stokes; constables, J. M. Galt, John Manning, L. N. Willsey. The year 1894 was a strenuous one. The great railway strike had thrown many men out of work, and the council, to keep the unemployed, hired many of them

to work on city improvements. Feeling against the railroads ran high and when the C., M. & St. P. road built a high board fence along the east side of its yards, shutting off all travel on certain streets that crossed the yards, there was great indignation. The council held a special meeting and passed a resolution condemning the action of the railroad in "unlawfully obstructing some of our streets" and ordered street superintendent Chris Hanson to tear down the fence where Bridge street crossed the tracks. The railroad got busy and at the next meeting of the council, which was held March 2, 1895, the same council that ordered the fence torn down, ordered the same street superintendent to erect the fence and put it in as good condition as it was originally. A petition addressed to the railroad company by the council asked that the company allow the use of a foot-path across the tracks, the city agreeing to pay the salary of a flagman to be stationed at the crossing. The council also asked the county commissioners to erect a viaduct over the tracks. That body was not sure that the county funds could be expended for such a purpose, but agreed to erect such a structure, provided the city would agree to repay the county the sum of \$5,000, the cost of the viaduct, should the courts decide that the county board had ordered contrary to law. The iron bridge which spans the yards at the east end of Water street is a monument to the council of 1894. That council elected was: L. D. Baird, mayor; Jacob Weisel, alderman at large; John Robertson, Henry Curtis and J. L. Gulden; H. L. Banfield, treasurer; Johan Wold, recorder. The latter died in October and Herman Gunz was elected to fill the vacancy. Other elective officers that year were: Justice of the peace, J. E. Robinson, W. W. Ranney, F. H. Stokes; constables, J. W. Manning and L. N. Wilsey. The city voted for license, 664 to 302. The appointive officers were: J. M. Galt, chief of police; Chris Hanson, superintendent of streets; Thomas Dugan, fire chief, and J. M. Greenman, city attorney and superintendent of the water works.

In 1895, three independent candidates were elected, C. H. Johnson, T. M. Foster and A. W. Wright. The entire list elected was as follows: Mayor, C. H. Johnson; treasurer, H. L. Banfield; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, J. C. Belding; aldermen, A. W. Wright, S. A. Emerson, M. J. Haney and Ira Padden. The city voted for license, but a curious fact is that the records of the city do not show what the vote was, the statement being made, "On motion the license vote was placed on file." The appointive officers that year were, chief of police, J. M. Galt; city attorney and superintendent of water works, J. M. Greenman; fire chief, Thomas Dugan; street superintendent, B. Maxwell.

The year 1896 found the city divided into two factions, the

northenders and the southenders. The former wanted the north end of the city developed, the others wanted to see the south end grow. The fight came on in a contest for the location of a city hall. L. D. Baird offered the city a deed for land at the north end of Main street. F. A. Ticknor, acting for the southenders, offered the city the McKenna lots at the corner of Bridge and River streets. The council adopted a resolution accepting Mr. Baird's land. The newly elected Mayor, F. I. Crane, promptly vetoed the resolution. The council as promptly passed it over his head and an architect was ordered to draw plans for the new building. Those plans are now buried under the dust and await other years for city development. The election of 1896 resulted as follows: Mayor, F. I. Crane; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, J. C. Belding; aldermen, George A. Hormel, Joseph Adams, H. A. Avery, J. L. Gulden; justices of peace, J. E. Robinson, W. W. Ranney, F. H. Stokes; constables, J. M. Galt, John Manning, John Beckel; chief of police, J. M. Galt; street superintendent, Burr Maxwell; attorney and superintendent of water works, J. M. Greenman. Dr. Wheat, who for many years had been chairman of the board of health, was succeeded by Dr. McKenna.

In 1897 the result of the election was: Mayor, F. I. Crane; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, J. C. Belding; recorder, T. N. Foster; aldermen, George Hormel, S. A. Emerson, John Robertson, M. J. Haney and Ira Padden. James D. Smith was appointed street commissioner. The other officers remained the same as in 1896. License carried by a majority of sixty-one, which was an indication of the growing "dry" sentiment.

In 1898 there was a strenuous temperance campaign, resulting in a victory for no license by 102 votes. This was the first time that Austin had been "dry" in twenty years, and the usual crop of "blind pigs" resulted. The entire ticket elected was: Mayor, F. I. Crane; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, J. C. Belding; aldermen, W. C. Holmes, John Robertson, Percy Bump and Alex. S. Campbell; justices, John E. Robinson, W. W. Ranney, F. H. Stokes; constables, J. M. Galt and Herbert Bordy. The appointments were as follows: Chief of police, J. M. Galt; city attorney, A. W. Wright. This year the Austin Gas, Light & Heating Company was granted a franchise. A controversy arose as to what caused the death of shade trees on Chatham street. Some believed that gas leaking from the mains was the cause. The council held several meetings, at which the subject was thoroughly discussed. In July, 1899, the company surrendered its charter. It is perhaps significant that the city council began to look for an additional water supply within three months after the city had voted out

the saloons. This year the Herzog, Holmes and Sachse springs were measured, pipe was purchased and the right of way secured for bringing the water to the city. The council of the following year sold the pipe, rescinded the resolution to buy the springs and had several new wells sunk at the water works station.

The year 1899 was one of much discussion of the liquor question. The Prohibition forces printed a weekly paper called the "Search Light," which was edited by a number of the Austin clergymen. Many who had voted "dry" in 1898 felt that public sentiment was not strong enough to secure law enforcement and they swung over to the "wet" side. The discussion grew most bitter as election day, March 14, drew near. On election morning an extra edition of the "Search Light" had been distributed before breakfast to the home of every voter. At 8 a. m. the W. C. T. U. paraded the streets in a snow squall. They carried a large picture of Frances Willard and a score of banners with inscriptions, "Will Austin Surrender to Rum Rebellion?" "Woe to the Man Who Putteth the Bottle to his Neighbor's Lips," etc. When the votes were counted it was found that Austin had gone wet by a majority of 216 votes. That night the extreme "wet" element, provided with brooms, bottles and other articles, paraded the streets. The ticket elected was: Mayor, Alex. S. Campbell; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, S. A. Smith; aldermen, H. Birkett, C. F. Cook, Thomas Mann, Ira Padden; justice, J. C. Hemer.

Mayor-elect Campbell resigned his position as alderman of the third ward, and the council elected George H. Sutton to fill the vacancy. J. M. Greenman was chosen city attorney. Dr. W. L. Hollister became chairman of the board of health. Thomas Dugan, fire marshal; J. D. Smith, street commissioner, and J. M. Galt, chief of police.

The council had the names of its members inscribed on a marble tablet and set in the walls of the municipal plant. The contract that the city had with the Austin Electric Light plant expired in 1899 and the company asked for a renewal. The council's answer was a resolution passed April 8, 1899, authorizing the purchasing committee to buy machinery for an electric light plant. On May 5, this resolution was rescinded and the committee was ordered to secure information as to the cost of an electric light plant. June 2 an expert electrician was brought to the city from St. Paul to give the desired information. On September 15 plans were adopted and bids were accepted for a plant. The Austin Electric Company secured an injunction. The council held a special meeting and passed a resolution to sever all business relations with the company October 31. The case

dragged on through the rest of the year and was not settled until the council of 1900, on April 10, purchased the Electric Light plant for \$16,000 and added it to the new one. The council of 1899 had other troubles, for Austin had an epidemic of smallpox and the council purchased a piece of land in the southeast part of the city. The building was just ready for occupancy when it was burned to the ground. The council offered a reward of \$500 for evidence leading to the discovery of the fire bug, but the city never had to pay the reward.

1900—Officers were elected this year as follows: Mayor, Alexander Campbell; recorder, T. M. Foster; treasurer, Alfred Johnson; assessor, S. A. Smith; aldermen, H. Birkett, John Robertson, Percy Bump, George Sutton; justices, J. E. Robinson, H. N. Lane, J. Hemmer; constables, R. A. Carmichael, J. M. Galt and Tony Beckel. License carried by a majority of 356. The following appointments were made: Chief of police, J. M. Galt; city attorney, A. W. Wright; city surveyor, M. N. Clausen; fire marshal, J. L. Gulden; street commisisoner, J. D. Smith; chairman board of health, Dr. W. L. Hollister. The council received a petition that remains a novel one to this day in the annals of the city. This petition came from the saloonkeepers, asking that the council nail up all rear and side entrances to the saloons and enforce the law in regard to minors entering saloons.

1901—Officers were elected as follows: Mayor, C. L. West; treasurer, Alfred E. Johnson; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, S. A. Smith; aldermen, George A. Hormel, Fred E. Gleason, Dr. H. A. Avery and John L. Gulden. License vote 677, against 228. The following appointments were made: City attorney, A. W. Wright; surveyor, M. N. Clausen; fire marshal, Thomas Mann; street commissioner, Barney Bushman; chief of police, J. M. Galt; chairman board of health, Dr. W. L. Hollister; superintendent of water works, William Todd. George Sutton resigned as alderman on April 5, and the council elected John A. Anderson to fill the vacancy. On July 19, the council ordered another well to be driven to increase the water supply of the city and installed water meters. On November 28, Lafayette French announced to the council that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Beatty had given three acres of land, E. G. Tompkins three acres of land, and that five acres more had been purchased by popular subscription, all lying on the east bank of the Cedar and south of the city for park purposes. Later two acres more were purchased. The council in recognition of the work done by Mr. French in securing the land for park purposes, gave it the name of Lafayette park. The following summer a "grubbing bee" was held, at which lawyers, doctors, merchants and laboring men devoted a day to improving the property.

1902—The following officers were elected: Mayor, Dr. C. H. Johnson; treasurer, A. E. Johnson; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, S. A. Smith; aldermen, George A. Hormel, John Robertson, P. Bump, John Konovsky; justices, J. E. Robinson, H. N. Lane, J. Hemmer; constables, R. A. Carmichael, J. M. Galt and Tony Beckel. The following appointments were made: City attorney, A. W. Wright; surveyor, G. Allen; fire marshal, Thos. Mann; chief of police, J. M. Galt; street commissioner, Barney Bushman. In April, 1902, a meeting was held, to which the property owners of Main street had been invited to discuss the question of paving that street. There was much opposition to the proposed improvement.

On May 20, the property of the Christian church at the corner of Maple and Chatham streets was purchased for a hose house and the church altered for this new usage.

On June 30, the sum of \$15,000 was appropriated to erect a building for the Southern Minnesota Normal College.

On August 5, the council decided to install a day electric service to be ready for use November 1. F. H. McCulloch, a printer, was the first to use the new power.

During the years 1900 and 1901 there had been much agitation for the paving of Main and Water streets. The charter restricted the action of the council along permanent improvement lines. On March 26, 1902, a petition of ten per cent of the voters who had voted at the last election, which had been held but two weeks previous, was presented to Judge Kingsley of the district court, requesting him to name a board to prepare and submit to the voters a new charter. In compliance with that request the following were named: James D. Sheedy, Seymour Johnson, Lafayette French, C. I. Johnson, H. A. Avery, Ed Barr, C. L. West, A. W. Wright, George Merrick, J. M. Greenman, E. C. Kenney, Alex S. Campbell, J. L. Gulden, Ira Padden and Joseph Regner.

The board met and elected C. L. West president, and Arthur Wright secretary. It held frequent meetings during the ensuing months, and on January 2, 1903, the new charter was presented to the city council. It was signed by but nine of the board, C. L. West, A. W. Wright, J. L. Gulden, C. I. Johnson, Lafayette French, Hoyt A. Avery, J. M. Greenman, E. C. Kenney, and J. D. Sheedy.

On January 16, a petition signed by eighty-two citizens was presented to the city council requesting that a special election be called for February 13, to vote upon the charter. In the meanwhile the proposed charter had been printed in the daily papers and much opposition had appeared. The people of the third ward objected to a redistricting of the city into four wards, which would make material changes in the boundaries of that

ward. The no license people objected to a provision that made it necessary to secure twenty-five per cent of the voters on a petition to have the liquor question submitted to the people. Under the old charter it required but ten per cent. Many of the voters objected to a section that barred all but free holders from holding office. The liquor interests opposed the new measure because it provided for the mandatory revocation of liquor licenses for the violation of any city ordinance or state law pertaining to the business.

In order to pass the charter four-sevenths of the votes cast were required to be in favor of the charter. The vote was 272 in favor and 262 against.

The board again met and on March 3 were ready with an amended charter. This was printed in full in the daily papers with explanatory notes by A. W. Wright. A mass meeting was also held at the court house. The objectionable features had been eliminated and the charter went before the people at an election held March 10. There was still much opposition to the proposed measure and it was carried by a majority of less than one vote.

The new charter provided for biennial election, all of the old aldermen's terms to expire at the same time, the aldermen holding office at the time of the passage of the charter to hold until their time expired. Under the new charter the municipal electric plant and water works passed into the hands of a commission, and from the control of the city council.

The new charter has been of great advantage in some respects, but in others there is no doubt but the city could have made more permanent improvements under the statute laws of the state than under the home-rule charter.

The officers elected in 1903 were: Mayor, C. F. Cook; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; recorder, T. M. Foster; assessor, E. P. Kelley; aldermen, P. H. Zender, Peter Johnson, Frank Hall and George Beckel. The new charter went into effect April 11, 1903. Mayor Cook appointed as commissioners of the electric light, power and water board, S. D. Catherwood, for one year; J. D. Sheedy, for two years; A. S. Campbell, for three years; George A. Hornel, for four years, and J. L. Gulden for five years. Mr. Catherwood resigned from the board November 6, and was succeeded by A. M. Smith.

Mayor Cook appointed for the first park board, Thomas Beatty, one year; F. E. Gleason, two years; George A. Sutton, three years; Lafayette French, four years, and Anton Friedrich for five years.

The council elected B. Bushman, street commissioner; Thomas Dugan, fire chief, and Thomas Pridham, city attorney.

The council granted a franchise to the new organized Interstate Telegraph & Telephone Company, passed an anti-spitting on the sidewalk ordinance and in January, 1904, condemned the opera house and several other places of public amusement, as fire traps. The owners of the opera house announced to the council: "The building will never again be opened as an opera house." Later a part of the stage caved in.

1904-1905—Mayor, C. F. Cook; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, L. B. Fairbanks; aldermen, Thomas Riley, Percy Bump, W. J. Bell, Peter Johnson, F. O. Hall, Geo. Beckel, Ira Padden; justices, J. E. Robinson, H. N. Lane, George Bailey. The following appointments were made: T. H. Pridham, city attorney; Nels Jensen, fire chief; Barney Bushman, street commissioner; G. H. Allen, city surveyor. On September 16, received a petition for the paving of Main street. On September 26, the council met with the property holders, several of whom were much opposed to the proposed improvement. The city had a floating indebtedness of something over \$20,000, and a special election was held November 8, at which bonds were voted to take up this indebtedness and at the same time an amendment to the charter was passed.

On March 5, 1905, the council passed the necessary resolutions for the paving of Main street between Oakland avenue and Lansing avenue, a block each way on each of the intersecting streets, and Water street from Railway street to St. Paul street.

1906-1907—Mayor, George Sutton; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, L. B. Fairbanks; aldermen, Peter Johnson, W. J. Bell, T. C. E. Officer, Dr. A. M. Lewis, C. J. McNally, Ira Padden, P. H. Zender; justices, John Fairbanks, H. N. Lane, J. C. Hemer. T. M. Foster was appointed recorder. The following appointments were made: City attorney, T. H. Pridham; city engineer, M. N. Clausen; fire chief, N. P. Jensen; street superintendent, B. Bushman. The council appropriated \$250 for the San Francisco earthquake sufferers. The paving question was taken up February 1, 1907, and on February 15 the council advertised for bids for paving Water street with brick. A strong remonstrance was made by some of the property owners, who engaged Attorney Fay Greenman and H. H. Dunn, of Albert Lea, as counsel for the protestants. A special meeting of the council was held, at which the attendance was so great that the meeting was adjourned to the court room. As a majority of the property owners favored paving, the work was carried to completion.

1908-1909—Mayor, George Sutton; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, Jacob Gute; aldermen, Joseph Fitzhugh, C. F. Stillman, C. M. Emmons, Percy Bump, Ira Padden, John McCormick, P. H. Zender; justices, John Fairbanks, W. W. Ranny, David

Cooper. T. M. Foster was appointed recorder. The election was a close and bitter one for the position of alderman-at-large, P. H. Zender defeating Peter Johnson for the office. The latter asked that the council appropriate the sum of \$500 to investigate the charge that there had been illegal voting at the election, his point being that certain (S. M. N.) college students had voted who were not residents of the city. The council took no action on the matter.

The board of aldermen took up the question of building a fire engine house, armory and city hall, all in one building, and had plans drawn which were accepted. It went before the people at a special election, when the proposition was carried to build a city hall, armory and engine house at an expense "to exceed \$5,000." The council then voted to build, but before it got to work the terms of the aldermen had expired and another set of plans and specifications were added to those already accepted ten years previous. Mayor Sutton presided over the council for the last time April 7, 1909, and Alderman Zender became acting mayor. He then went to Omaha and entered the Omaha General Hospital for treatment, where he died July 1, the news being broken to the people by the tolling of the church bells. The body was brought to the city over the C. G. W. road, and was met at the depot by a large and sorrowing body of citizens. On Saturday, July 3, the body was taken to the corridor of the court house, where it lay in state, guarded by four members of Co. G, M. N. G., in uniform. From 4 to 5 o'clock all the stores were closed, and 970 of our people filed past the casket. The funeral occurred on Sunday, July 4, the escort being Co. G, McIntyre Post, G. A. R.; the firemen, Austin Lodge, 414, B. P. O. E., and other orders. The service was held in Christ Episcopal church and the body was buried in Oakwood cemetery.

1910-1911—Mayor, Alex S. Campbell; treasurer, J. L. Mitchell; assessor, John Reding; aldermen, A. C. Page, W. J. Bell, F. E. Gleason, A. Hotson, P. A. Reilly, Ira Paden, Franklin Clay; justices, John Fairbanks, W. W. Ranney, Ray Chaffee. The following appointments were made: Recorder, Frank Cronon; chief of police, J. M. Galt; chief of fire department, N. P. Jensen; chairman of board of health, Dr. H. F. Pierson; street commissioner, Robert Parkins. T. H. Pridham, who was appointed attorney, moved from the city and the council elected Jacob Nichol森 for the unexpired term.

A special election was held and bonds to the amount of \$30,000 were voted to purchase the Sargeant Springs and to bring the water to the city for domestic purposes. The council was also authorized to purchase the farm on which the springs

were located for the sum of \$18,500. The council at once bought the farm and springs and closed a contract for bringing the water to the city. The work was completed June 1, 1911.

CHAPTER XVIII

INDUSTRIAL AUSTIN

Importance of the Mercantile Interests—Beginning of Industry—Austin in 1867—The Railroad Era—Austin in 1876—Austin in 1884—The Modern Period—Manufacturing Interests—First Mill—Former Industries—Modern Industries.—Edited by Charles L. West.

Austin's wholesale and retail trade covers twenty-two blocks of the city's streets. Every line of commercial trade is represented. Not for ten years has there been a commercial failure of any importance. Austin's business houses are all on a firm financial basis and are conducted conservatively. Several of the merchants have been in business here for over thirty years. The stores are modern and the stock carried up-to-date, the merchants going to Chicago and New York to personally inspect the stock of goods which they place before the people. Prices are reasonable in all lines, and it is not an unusual thing for an Austin merchant to ship goods to St. Paul and Minneapolis to customers who have found it cheaper to buy certain lines of goods in this city.

BEGINNING OF BUSINESS

The first move toward business here was in the fall of 1854, when Chauncey Leverich commenced the building of a saw mill, which was completed in the spring of 1855. The first store in the place was opened by A. B. Vaughan and his son, P. D. Vaughan, who came here in the spring of 1855, bringing a stock of goods with them from Wisconsin. In 1856 they sold to Aloysius Brown, and moved to Lansing.

Aloysius Brown was born near Emmetsburg, Md., January 18, 1793, and married Elizabeth Drury. In 1856, he came to Austin and engaged in trade as before stated. His stock of goods was procured at Winona and McGregor, and were drawn here by ex teams. In 1857-58 the people depended upon Mr. Brown to furnish them with flour and corn meal, which was drawn from

Chatfield and Decorah, Iowa. At times the roads were so bad that it was almost impossible for a team to pass over, or rather through them, and it required many days to make the journey. As soon as it was learned that teams had been dispatched for a new supply of meal, gold coin and sacks with the names of the owners and amount of meal required securely tied to each, were deposited with Mr. Brown to make sure of a portion of the meal. On its arrival the amounts were put into each sack and set away for those who had paid for it. The demand would sometimes exceed the supply, so the amount dealt out to each would be diminished until ten or fifteen pounds would be the most he would sell to any one family. When the meal was all distributed and there were yet families not supplied, a raid would be made on the sacks that were filled and the contents distributed among those that had no flour or meal to eat. In one instance a Norwegian woman, having a large family, came before noon and stayed until 9 o'clock trying to buy more than fifty pounds of meal, but when she saw the last of the meal carried away by littles, she gave it up and went home. Mr. Brown's death occurred February 23, 1864; Mrs. Brown's, April 3, 1868.

The second store in Austin was opened by J. B. Yates and V. P. Lewis.

General Stores. In the winter of 1856-57 George B. Hayes started into mercantile business in a building located in the block east of the Windsor House. He afterward did business in the building known as "headquarters." He carried a large stock of general merchandise and was the leading merchant here for some time. Hanchett and Sprague opened a general store here in 1856, in a frame building north of the present McCullough printing plant. They were in business two or three years. George Mitchell came here from Geneva, New York, in 1857, and started the first furniture store. Albert Galloway and D. B. Johnson, Jr., formed a partnership and opened a general store in July, 1857, in a building east of where the postoffice now stands. The next spring they dissolved, Galloway continuing in the trade until 1868. He then sold to Olfson & Peterson, who ran two years and closed out. In the fall of 1858 Ruford Kimball erected a small frame building and embarked in the grocery and dry goods trade, and failed the coming season. In 1859 James Clock started a general store. He operated the same about a year, when he failed. F. King opened a general store in 1863 and in 1878 George M. Fish, Jr., became a partner, under the firm name of King & Fish. Philips, Sawyer, Smith, Baird and others were in business here in the sixties. N. P. Austin opened a general store in 1865.

Meat Dealers. The first meat business in Austin was done by

W. A. Woodson, in 1856. He was living about two miles from town, where he dressed the beef. He brought the meat to town in a wagon and drove from house to house to supply his customers. Eyre & Rankin opened a market here in 1865.

Drugs. The first drug store in Austin was started by Dr. Orlenzer Allen, in 1856. He closed out in war times. Dr. Brewer was the second druggist, closely followed by Dr. Barnes. Early in 1866 Woodard & Dorr opened a drug store. J. J. and G. G. Clemmer opened a little later the same year.

Millinery. The first milliner in Austin was Mrs. Sarah H. Bemis, who settled here in 1855. She was in the business until after the war.

Smithing. The first blacksmith in Austin was Winfield Loveland, who is spoken of as coming late in 1854, or early in 1855. In 1857 he moved away. During that time Abe Haveling and a man named Day worked at the trade here for a short time. Other early blacksmiths were Samuel Rice and Llewellyn and Piper.

Tailoring. In 1861 Henry Jacobs, a merchant tailor by trade, opened a shop here and put in a stock of ready-made clothing. He is still in business here. Mr. Jacobs has been in business longer than any other man in Austin.

Boots and Shoes. George and Oliver Bemis put in the first stock of boots and shoes in the spring of 1857.

Livery. The first livery stables in Austin were started in 1864. In that year there were two stables opened: one by A. B. Davidson and William Brown, the other by E. D. and Calos Fenton. In 1868 W. T. Mandeville succeeded to the business started by Davidson & Brown. Leonard Gillett, Joshua Davidson, Hicks & Phelps, Cobb & Son, M. C. Gratton engaged in the livery business here in an early day.

Jewelry. Gustav Schleuder has been in the jewelry business in Austin since 1863, and next to Henry Jacobs has been in business longer than any other man in Austin.

Hardware. Charles C. Hunt opened a hardware store in Austin in the sixties.

Express Companies. The first express business done at Austin was that operated by Nichols & Cotter, who ran the stage line from Rochester, also from Waverly, Ia., northwest into Minnesota. The United States Express Company established a regular office at this point and Harlan W. Page was appointed the first agent. A little later the American Express Company established an office also, and made Mr. Page joint agent. This was the first joint office of these two companies in Minnesota.

Mr. Page was succeeded by Phelps and Hathaway, who held the offices till they divided, each having a separate office. C. J.

Paddock was the first agent for the United States Company after they divided, and James Hutchins for the American Company. About 1870 W. T. Wilkins became agent for the United States Company and he in 1872 was succeeded by L. M. Ober. L. R. Hathaway was finally succeeded in 1875 by L. E. Day, who continued till 1884, when J. E. Crews took the office.

AUSTIN IN 1867

A directory of Austin, published in June, 1867, gives the following names of those engaged in business and in the professions here at that time. Attorneys: Ormanzo Allen, Cameron & Johnson, Everest & Wright, Page & Wheeler, Shortt & Jones. Auctioneer: LeRoy Hathaway. Band: Austin Cornet Band, R. L. Kimball, leader. Agricultural implements: E. D. Fenton, Wright and Azure. Architects and builders: Andrews Brothers, C. Chapin, George Baird, D. Bosworth, Campbell & Dodge, W. C. Cassell, Oscar Eyres, C. Ford, George Johnson, L. W. Smith, Thomas Tremple, William Tucker, James Williams. Banker: Harlan W. Page. Billiard hall: William Simpson. Bakery: Stephen Rice. Blacksmiths: Hunt & Clark, Allan Mollison, L. Piper, Hiram Smith. Boots, shoes, etc.: J. C. Ackley & Co., J. B. Revord. Barber: W. H. Bullock. Brick makers: Morse & Tuttle, Webb Brothers. Churches: Baptist, H. I. Parker; Congregational, Alfred Morse; Episcopal, L. W. Gibson; Methodist, W. Carver; Presbyterian, H. A. Mayhew; Roman Catholic, Father McDermott. County officers: H. M. Allen, auditor; Sylvester Smith, treasurer; Solomon Snow, register of deeds; D. J. Tubbs, sheriff; E. O. Wheeler, attorney; Ormanzo Allen, probate judge; L. A. Sherwood, clerk of district court; Sherman Page, superintendent of schools. Clothing and cloths: J. C. Ackley & Co., R. Buckelmann, A. J. Phelps. Dentists: Dr. E. C. Dorr, Dr. E. P. Hudson. Dry goods and groceries: N. P. Austin, George B. Hayes, Johnson & Brother, F. King, Olson & Cnutson, Paddock Brothers, Soule Brothers. Drugs and medicines: J. J. and G. G. Clemmer, Johnson Brothers & Co., Woodard & Dorr. Express companies: American, Harlan W. Page; United States, same. Merchants' Union: Charles W. Sawyer. Fanning mills and washing machines: William Truesdell. Furniture: Hopkins & Fernald, William Ludwig. Flour and feed: Wright & Azure. Good Templars: Austin Lodge, No. 14, I. O. G. T. Groceries: J. C. Ackley & Co., J. F. Atherton, Cook Bros, A. Matson, Wright & Azure. Hotels: Davidson's Hotel, Fleck House, Farmers' Home. Hardware, stoves, etc.: Austin & Smout, J. F. Atherton, Kimball & Hunt, V. P. Lewis. Harness and saddlery: Hathaway & Kaiser, Frank Raymond. Insurance agents: LeRoy

Hathaway, Page & Wheeler, Harlan W. Page, C. W. Sawyer, R. I. Smith, Solomon Snow. Ice dealer: B. F. Jones. Jewélry, etc.: Gustav Schleuder. Job printing: Register office. Lumber dealers: Crooker & Brother & Lamoreux, Clay & Leach, A. Matson. Livery stables: A. B. Davidson, E. D. Fenton & Brother. Masonic: Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, A. F. & A. M.; Austin Chapter, U. D. Millinery and dressmaking: Cook & Bemis, Mrs. S. Hedding, Mrs. D. A. Lord, Miss M. A. Sample, Mrs. Q. A. Truesdell. Merchant tailors: D. Banks, R. Dunkelmann, A. Matson. Meat market: Eyre & Frederich. Newspaper: Mower County Register. Physicians and surgeons: Dr. Orlenzer Allen, Dr. R. A. Barnes, Dr. P. C. Berry, Dr. O. W. Gibson, Dr. W. C. Jones. Photograph gallery: R. I. Smith. Painters: Weseman & Hickok. Plasterers: R. J. Tyler, William Vandergrift. Restaurants: Huxhold & Van Campen. Sewing machine agents: J. C. Ackley, Mrs. Orlenzer Allen, C. H. Davidson. Stone and brick masons: Patrick Barrett, William Gutherless. U. S. officers: Deputy collector, Sol. Snow; deputy assessor, H. M. Allen. Veterinary surgeon: Dr. M. M. Walker. Wagon shops: W. I. Brown, Holt & Maloney.

THE RAILROAD ERA

Prior to the advent of the railroad to Austin the business of the place was not classified, but general stocks prevailed. But at this time a revolution took place which really marked a new era in the commercial history of Austin. The history of a majority of the business houses which operated previous to the coming of the railroad has already been given. In this connection will be given the general development of the various branches of trade from 1867, when the railroad was completed, up to 1884, when the modern period begins.

Mercantile. Soon after the coming of the railroad N. P. Austin sold an interest in his general store to F. A. Richardson and later sold his remaining interest to Frank Mayhew and went to California. After a few years Mayhew sold his interest to Richardson and followed Austin to California. Richardson continued in the business until 1880, when his stock was destroyed by fire. James C. Day started in the dry goods business early in this era. After about one year he sold to Stoaley & Williams. Their business was managed by W. H. Merriek two years, when they closed out. The C. L. West Dry Goods Company. In the spring of 1869 C. L. West left Osage, Ia., where he had been employed as a clerk in the general stores of H. W. McNabb and Fonda and Redfearn for three years past, and engaged as a clerk in the drug store of Johnson Bros. for about three months, after which he

was employed in the general store of Austin & Richardson for about three years. In the fall of 1871 he decided to go into business for himself. He first thought of going into the grocery business in some small town, but on counting the cost of a small grocery stock he decided that the small amount of money he had was not enough. He finally decided that the biggest show for the least money was in the crockery business. He went around town and persuaded the dealers to sell their stocks of crockery to him and agree to keep out of the business. He conducted this business until June, 1873, when R. O. Hall moved from Dixon, Ill., to Austin, when they went into partnership under the firm name of Hall & West, and opened a general store. After two years the grocery department was discontinued and an exclusive dry goods business continued until June, 1899, when Mr. Hall retired, since which time the business has been continued by Mr. West up to the date of this writing, making a continuous period of forty years that Mr. West has been in business in Austin. No sensational or radical methods have been employed, only such methods as have appealed to an old merchant as progressive and honest have been the governing policy of this store. L. S. Wilard established a dry goods business in Austin in 1876. Christian Johnson engaged in the mercantile trade in Austin a few years after the railroad was built with his brother Jacob, who died a few months later. After eight years Mr. Johnson sold out and engaged as a clerk.

Groceries. Among the grocery dealers at the commencement of this era was L. G. Basford, who continued in the business until the falling of the Basford block in 1883. James C. Day, after selling his stock of dry goods, opened an extensive grocery store, from which he drove the first delivery wagon in town. He was succeeded by S. W. Day. Dalager Bros. engaged in the grocery business in 1880, one of the brothers, Edward, having been in the same line since 1872, while the other brother, Andrew, had been engaged in the sale of farm machinery since 1878. Edward A. Dalager is still engaged in the grocery business in Austin. Fred Radermacher opened a grocery store in Austin in 1869, and in 1876 engaged in the bakery and restaurant business.

Furniture. The furniture trade of Austin was represented in 1867 by George Mitchell, Hopkins & Fernald. Mitchell continued in the trade until his death. Hopkins & Fernald continued the business until 1875, when Hopkins sold and moved to Boston, Mass. Fernald was joined in business by A. W. Kimball. They continued in business until their stock was destroyed by fire. Fernald started in business soon after. S. C. Olson, who at first worked in Fernald's store, commenced business for himself. He was in trade in 1884.

Drug Trade. The drug business at the commencement of this era was represented by Woodard & Dorr, and J. J. & G. G. Clemmer. The firm of Woodard & Dorr was soon changed to Door & Wold. K. O. Wold is still in business here. The Clemmer Bros. were in business but a few years when G. G. withdrew from the firm and went to Hampton, Ia. J. J. was never a resident of Austin. Soon after G. G. withdrew the firm became Clemmer & Pooler. Charles A. Pooler is still in business here.

Lumber. The business was first represented in Austin by Mr. Washburn, in 1866, and he remained in the business two years. The same year a yard was started by P. G. Lamoreaux on Main street. William Leach opened a yard in the fall of the same year on Mill street, east of the yard established by Washburn. Mr. Leach continued in business about one year. The lumber trade in Austin in 1867, after the completion of the railroad, was an immense business. From this point all the territory between Albert Lea and Mason City had to obtain lumber from Austin. The lumber manufacturers of Minneapolis had yards of their own for several years and did an extensive business. In 1868 there were six yards in the city. Among the dealers who continued in the trade after the boom had ceased was William Richards, whose yard was at the depot. He sold to E. H. Gerard and he to S. B. Woodsum. Bray & French were also early dealers in lumber. Frank I. Crane succeeded Bray & French in 1876. William M. Leach came to Austin in 1866, engaged in the lumber trade, and later took charge of the lumber yards of Frank I. Crane. The Crane yard is still in existence and is in charge of Ralph P. Crane.

Grain Business. The first to engage in the grain business at Austin in the railroad era were B. J. and E. P. Van Valkenburgh, who located a warehouse soon after the railroad came in. Among the other early dealers were Ames & Co., William W. Cargill, John Crandall and Yates & Lewis. The railroad company built a low, flat warehouse shortly after the road was built in and about the same time the firm of B. J. and E. P. Van Valkenburgh dissolved. Bassett & Hunting built an elevator about 1875, which had a capacity of 60,000 bushels, and B. J. Van Valkenburgh managed it, having an interest in the same. In 1868 Yates & Lewis built a warehouse and handled grain a few years. In 1884 the grain business was in the hands of Bassett & Hunting and Charles Whitton.

Leather Goods. The first harness made in Austin was by LeRoy Hathaway, in 1860. Mr. Hathaway was at that time at work for George B. Hayes, who started the first harness shop. In the spring of 1865 Hathaway engaged in business for himself, and in October of that year Mr. Kaiser became his partner in business.

This partnership continued about one year. Mr. Kaiser was then alone in business until July 25, 1868, when Mr. Guiney became associated with him.

Boots and Shoes. Joseph Schwan is the oldest established boot and shoe dealer now in business in Austin. He began business October 23, 1867. He began on a small scale in a small frame building only ten feet in width, kept a small stock of ready-made goods and also did custom work. Mr. Schwan is still successfully engaged in business. In December, 1867, James Truesdell, of Syracuse, N. Y., started an exclusive boot and shoe store. In 1869 he moved to Ira Jones' building, where he remained two years, and from there moved to the east side of Main street, into a building which he bought. In 1880 Mr. Truesdell sold his stock to Frank Ticknor. J. C. Ackley purchased the boot and shoe stock which George B. Hayes carried in connection with his general store and operated until 1873, and then sold to J. P. Revord. In two or three years he sold to John Lambert, continued a few years and moved to southern Iowa. Samuel Sweningsen and Charles I. Johnson embarked in the boot and shoe business in 1880 and were among the dealers in 1884. Charles I. Johnson is still engaged in the footwear business in Austin. Amos H. Hill came to Austin in February, 1876, and for a time was in partnership with John Lambert in the general grocery and boot and shoe trade.

Clothing. The clothing business has always been well represented in Austin. Henry Jacobs, the pioneer dealer, was still in trade in 1884. R. Dunkleman established business here late in 1866, and Joseph Levy early in 1867. Dettleburgh Brothers, better known as Cheap Charley, established their business here about 1878.

Photographers. Dr. Brewer was the first photographer to locate at Austin. He was assisted by A. B. Davidson, who succeeded him in the business. In 1884 Orville Slocum and G. S. Hildahl were each engaged in the business.

Hardware Business. Charles C. Hunt, who is spoken of as being in the hardware business previous to the railroad era, continued in trade until 1870, when he sold to Ira Jones, who was in trade the greater part of the time until 1883, when he was succeeded by Cook & Davidson. J. H. Patterson, general hardware dealer purchased a building of J. B. Recurd in 1883. The business of Mr. Patterson was established by Crane & Patterson in 1880. The latter purchased his partner's interest in February, 1882. H. O. Jahren and H. S. Hammond engaged in the sale of farm machinery in the firm name of Jahren & Hammond in 1884, purchasing the business established by Goodwin & Jahren in 1874. A. O. Jahren, a brother of H. O., succeeded to the business fol-

lowed by H. O. W. H. Sutton engaged in the general hardware business in Austin in November, 1883, under the firm name of Fish & Sutton. Mr. Sutton became sole owner in May, 1884. In August, 1883, he sold his hardware stock to J. F. Andrews & Son. D. B. Smith started dealing in general farm machinery in Austin in the fall of 1871. Austin Foundry was established near the Milwaukee depot in 1867 by William W. Brownson, who continued the business successfully until his death in 1873. In the agricultural implement business there have been numerous dealers. William Allen, about the first regular dealer, after railroad times, operated about five years and then closed out and removed to Wells, Minn. Next came Alanson Wright, who did quite an extensive business in this line. Next came E. P. Van Valkenburgh, who was succeeded by Oscar Ayers, who was in business for a few years.

AUSTIN IN 1876

In 1876, Centennial year, the business and professional progress of Austin was represented as follows:

Main street—Austin & Chase, hardware; Noble & McWhorter, grocers; Oleson, Smith & Co., dry goods; C. H. Brewster, merchant tailor; J. J. Hayes & Bro., jewelers; George Baird & Son, stationers; L. L. Gable, organs; Miss W. C. Soper, milliner; Charles Rommel, meat market; Hall & West, dry goods and groceries; Fernald & Kimball, furniture; Clemmer & Pooler, druggists; C. B. Staples, dentist; J. A. Dunston, barber; Robert Griffith, groceries and stationery; Mrs. E. M. Benson, milliner; John B. Revord, groceries and boots and shoes; Bullock & Pierce, barbers; Witham & Robinson, painters; James Cronon, cigars, tobacco and notions; George Foote, confectionery; W. H. Anderson, baker and grocer; Joseph Levy, clothing; M. M. Brey, tobacco and cigars; F. King, dry goods; Dorr & Wold, druggists; G. Schleuder, jeweler; M. T. Grattan, reaper agent; R. Dunkle-mann, clothing; Solner & Morgan, general store; Davidson & Basford, publishers Register; Rabe & Avery, dentists; T. W. Woodward, justice of the peace; Merrick & Knox, hardware; H. A. Fairbanks, harness maker; L. Piper, blacksmith; Smith, Wilkins & Easton, Mower County Bank; L. M. Ober, express agent and deputy revenue officer; J. A. Waters, sewing machines; P. Zeller, proprietor European hotel; Dr. W. L. Hollister, physician and surgeon; Dr. S. P. Thornhill, physician and surgeon; First National Bank, O. W. Shaw president, H. W. Page cashier; E. O. Wheeler, lawyer and real estate agent; E. Mapes, groceries; H. F. Kunz, dry goods; Joseph Schwan, boots and shoes; H. Laithlen, confectionery and restaurant; D. B. Johnson, Jr., at-

torney at law; Crandall & French, lawyers; L. W. Griffith, justice of the peace; H. H. Harwood, proprietor of the Transcript; George B. Hayes, loan broker; Kaiser & Guinney, harness makers; Frank Raymond, harness maker; Padden & Noble, druggists; James Truesdell, boots and shoes; Tallmadge & Ball, grocers; F. A. Richardson, dry goods; Greenman & Abbey, insurance agents and lawyers; George E. Wilbour & Son, merchant tailors and clothiers; Engle & Co., miller's office; L. Ed. Day, express agent; Hazlewood & Tuttle, hardware; H. M. & S. Cowing, milliners; Col. J. H. Mansfield, proprietor Davidson House; L. Sturtevant, musical instruments.

Mill street—John Walsh, grocer; William Newman, shoemaker; Frank Gibbons, confectionery; J. J. O'Maley, wines and liquors; S. Chandler & Bro., grocers; Adrian Drost, silversmith; H. L. Burgess, gunsmith; A. O. Jähren & Co., farm machinery; Leo Anderson, bakery; C. O. Berg, tailor; Sever Oleson, proprietor Scandinavian House; A. Nelson, liquors; H. J. Minar, marble yard; S. Hutchins, proprietor Ramsey stage line; Henry Kothe, proprietor Austin House; J. S. Corning, proprietor Grand Central Hotel; D. Heffner, billiard hall; Frank Anderson, liquor dealer; M. J. Cuddy, liquor dealer; Katz & Driesner, wholesale liquor dealers; O. E. Slocum, photographer; T. F. Armstrong, liquors; John McCormick, liquors; Kyle & Feihn, meat market; Henry Jacobs, tailor; Mrs. D. A. Lord, millinery; P. Zender, liquors; A. M. Radermacher, grocer; H. S. Smith, plow manufacturer; Dr. J. N. Wheat, physician and surgeon.

Bridge street—L. G. Basford, grocer; G. K. Hanson, wagon maker; W. A. Hotchkiss, proprietor Republican; Dr. J. P. Squires, physician and surgeon; A. H. Alsip, brick maker; Joseph Rhein-smith, blacksmith; W. I. Brown, farm machinery; H. S. Smith, blacksmith; J. Cota, shoemaker; Ole Sorenson, shoemaker; A. E. Meigs, postmaster; S. W. Day, notions; Frederich & Gies, meat market; James Geraghty, liquors; Cameron & Crane, lawyers and land agents; Anderson & Royce, coal dealers; H. G. Wachlin, liquors; James Bates, wagon shop; J. A. Donaldson, wood and iron worker; M. Feeny, boarding and liquors; John O'Brien, proprietor American House; A. M. Delaire, blacksmith; T. Dugan, blacksmith; Oleson & Nicholaison, furniture.

Around Public square—D. B. Smith; J. Weisel, mineral water; Fleck & Hay, proprietors Fleck House; T. Hillam, billiard hall; Carlos Fenton, livery; W. Patterson, blacksmith; Thomas Edwards, photographer; E. P. Van Valkenburgh, farm machinery; George C. Martin, hardware.

Miscellaneous—Dr. O. W. Gibson, physician and surgeon; P. O. French, pump manufacturer and agent for farm machinery; Grattan & Cox, livery; Brey & French, lumber; W. T. Mande-

ville livery; J. F. Atherton, proprietor railroad eating house; William Richards, lumber; J. Fischer, proprietor Burlington House; C. W. Ransom, grain buyer; J. M. Flowers, grain dealer; George B. Wright, foundry; A. W. Powers, manufacturer of fanning mills; V. Richard, manufacturer of fanning mills; Thos. Meaney, liquors; Michael Collins, liquors; W. H. Valleau, grain buyer; J. H. C. Huxhold, brewer; Frank Livingstine, brewer; J. S. Putnam, justice of the peace; C. N. Beiseker, cooper; Peter Parker, painter; W. H. Officer, miller; Jonathan Gregson, miller; Mathew Gregson, miller; Warner, Crane & Co., millers; J. McGrath, station agent; William Oleson, painter; D. Banks, tailor; Peter McCormick, proprietor Farmers' Home.

AUSTIN IN 1884

The commercial interests of Austin in August, 1884, were represented as follows: Dry goods: Hall & West, J. Solner & Co., L. S. Willard and F. King. Groceries: C. W. Taylor & Co., Dalager Bros., F. P. McBride, A. H. Hill & Co. Boots and shoes: J. Schwan, Sweningsen & Johnson and F. A. Ticknor. Clothing: R. Dunkleman, Dettelbach Bros., ("Cheap Charley") J. Levy and F. E. Jacobs. Hardware: Cook & Davidson, J. H. Patterson, J. F. Andrews & Son. Drugs: Dorr & Wold and Clemmer & Pooler. Agricultural machinery: D. B. Smith, Oscar Ayers, Keenan Bros., Jahren & Hammond. Restaurants: G. F. Rode-macher. R. P. Boyles. Harness shops: Kaiser & Guiney and Frank Rayman. News depot: James Cronan. Jewelers: G. Schleuder and Hayes Bros. Hotels: Fleck House, kept by A. M. Fleck; Mansfield House, kept by J. H. Mansfield; Windsor House, kept by John E. Robinson; Davidson House, kept by S. F. Gibbons; Railroad House, kept by Bannard & Horrabin; American House, kept by Andrew Noonan; Burlington House, kept by J. Fischer; German House. Lumber yards: F. I. Crane and S. B. Woodsum. Grain buyers: Bassett & Hunting (per H. A. Fairbanks) and C. H. Whitton.

The following named were ones who at one time had carried on business in Austin, but who, as early as 1884, had gone out of business: Groceries: Noble & McWharter, Paddock Bros., S. W. Day, Sprague & Co., Paden & Simmons. Drugs: Noble & French. Hardware: Austin & Smith, C. L. Chase. Dry goods: Fleetwood & Merrill, J. C. Smith & Co., Walker & Lidgerwood, Knud Knudson. Agricultural implements: W. J. Brown, E. J. Gratton, Nelson Bros., H. H. Kent, G. H. Azure. Boots and shoes: Jehial Woodward.

Of those in business here in 1884, the following are still actively engaged in mercantile pursuits in 1911: Chas. L. West, dry

goods, cloaks and suits; Edward A. Dalager, groceries; Frank P. McBride, groceries; Charles I. Johnson, footwear; Joseph Schwan (J. Schwan & Son), footwear; Gustav Schleuder, jewelry; Knud O. Wold, drugs; Charles A. Pooler, drugs; Frank Raymond, harnesses, and Hayes Bros. (J. J. and Orris), jewelry. Ralph Crane conducts the lumber business of his father, Frank I.

THE MODERN PERIOD

In 1885 began the modern mercantile period of Austin. The companies that have started in business, lived for a time and then sold out, have but little historical importance. There are at the present time a number of business houses which have been established for many years and which by reason of their stability and standing are worthy of their names being handed down to future generations as representatives of the mercantile interests of Austin at the present time. Among these may be mentioned: George Hirsh, clothing (see biographical sketch); Philip H. Friend, clothing (see biographical sketch); Hormel Provision House, food products (see sketch of George A. Hormel); John A. Maurek, general store; Ernest Myers, tobacco business; Holmes Hardware Company; Donovan & Goslee, furniture; Austin Furniture Company; Decker Bros., hardware (see biographical sketch); G. Fred Baird, undertaker; Urbatch Bros., hardware; Frank O. Hall, groceries; Lars P. Nelson, harness maker; John Briebach, meats; Fred E. Gleason, jeweler, established in 1890; Joseph Fitzhum, harness maker; M. J. Keenan, musical instruments; John F. Fairbanks, fuel; Fiester & Thomas, general store; J. S. R. Scoville, jeweler; Mathias S. Fisch, department store (see biographical sketch); Frank M. Zender, cigars; W. C. Horrooin, groceries; Paul H. Zender, bakery; Dunfee Bros., cigars; Fred L. Williams, cigars; Austin Cigar Company; Robert R. Murphy, dry goods; William D. Bassler, clothing; Albert Thon, dry goods; Ormanzo J. Benton, footwear; John E. Malloy, drugs; William R. Earl, furniture; Guy H. Burlingame, notions; Austin Candy Company; Owatonna Fruit Company; Austin Plumbing Company, Clefthon Plumbing Company.

CHAPTER XIX.

AUSTIN MANUFACTURIES

First Mill—Former Industries—Present Interests—Story of the Growth and Development of the Various Plants Which Have Assisted in the Progress of the City—Minor Activities.

While not primarily a manufacturing town, Austin nevertheless has a number of important factories, and the packing, railroad, printing, milling, clay products, cement, farm implement, wagon making, creamery, bottling, corrugated iron, bookbinding, rugmaking, gunmaking, farm machinery, bakery, post card, greenhouse, nursery, building and illuminating industries are important.

Naturally the milling industry was the first to occupy the attention of the people of this vicinity.

FIRST MILL

The first mill and factory in Austin is the subject of an article prepared many years ago by Q. A. Truesdell. "The first mill in Austin was of a primitive kind, made and used by the Indians. It was located on the west side of the Cedar river, about twenty rods above Engle's (now Campbell's) dam. A white oak stump was hollowed out in the top in the shape of a mortar, and with a wooden pestle the corn was pounded fine, mixed up with water and baked in the hot coals. Some of the corn was begged from the inhabitants and some stolen. In the month of November, 1858, the Truesdell brothers started up the first water mill. The mill was made of iron, and ran night and day part of the time. It was valuable at the time for grinding corn, there being no other mill nearer than a distance of thirty miles. Mr. Rose, of Rose Creek, brought the first sack of wheat and had it ground into flour, and when we met afterwards he told me the bread made from the flour was very black and not fit to eat. Most of the pioneers well remember what was called the "Water Johnny Cake Period," when there was little else than corn meal for bread, and not enough of that. Aloysius Brown was in trade at that time and did a large business in furnishing flour to the settlers. He had teams drawing flour from Chatfield and Decorah, Iowa; but this whole country was wet and soft that but small loads could be brought in and it took a long time to make a trip. Our supplies were chiefly drawn from Winona. They could not be procured to keep up with the demand, and such

was Mr. Brown's impartiality that he caused the sacks to be distributed in such a manner that every family should receive each a sack before any supplied were allowed to purchase the second. The settlers who came in years later knew but little what privations the first ones endured. The first steam mill was built by J. Bourgard and Asa Marsh, on the east side of town, and after a while it was fitted up with buhrs for grinding, and it was operated by Mr. Bourgard. In the fall of 1856, Q. A. and W. Truesdell put machinery in a building where Warner's mill (on Dobbin's creek) now (1876) stands, and for a long time manufactured furniture, but after a time the dam went out and the premises were abandoned."

FORMER INDUSTRIES

In the seventies and eighties, Austin had four important industrial plants, the Engle mill, now Campbell's; the Warner mill, now the lower Campbell mill; the plow manufactory of Johnson & Smith, which is still in operation, and the Austin Canning Company, now out of existence. Quarrying, lime burning and brickmaking were also important in those days. The brick manufactured here has entered into the construction of many important buildings in the Northwest, including the postoffice at LaCrosse. The stone quarried here, however, has shown an inclination to crumble and is not well suited for building purposes.

The Austin Pressed Brick Company was started in 1887, and for a time was very successful. The plant was burned and never rebuilt.

The Engle Mill was owned by Joe Engle & Sons, who operated a fine corrugated roller mill erected in 1881. These gentlemen came to Austin in 1871 and purchased Anderson's mill. The mill at that time was a small affair, containing but one run of stone, and was built by Mr. Anderson in 1864. Immediately after their purchase the firm began reconstructing the property, and practically rebuilt the mill, enlarging the building and adding two sets of buhrs, which, with other improvements, added to the first cost of the property, amounted to \$30,000. They operated this mill until February, 1881, when it was destroyed by fire. They began immediately to rebuild, but on a much more elaborate plan. The site of this mill, just east of Water street bridge, is now occupied by A. S. Campbell

The Austin Canning Factory.—The idea of establishing a canning factory at Austin was conceived by C. H. Davidson, the proprietor of the Austin Transcript. His attention was called to the matter by a gentleman who had a factory of this nature

at Gilman, Iowa. Mr. Davidson agitated the matter by talking up the project with some of the leading business men of Austin and G. Schleuder, Rev. A. Morse, John Walsh and others were awakened to the fact that it would be an important enterprise among Austin's industrial interests. This was in the fall of 1882. The company began canning September 4, 1883, arrangements having been made with the farmers in the vicinity for the raising of sweet corn. The factory had been in operation but three days when the boiler of the engine exploded, instantly killing the engineer, Fred G. Knox. This sad occurrence ended the work of the factory for 1883. The company was organized March 28, 1883. The first board of directors was composed of the following named gentlemen: John Walsh, C. H. Davidson, H. W. Page, G. Schleuder, W. H. Sutton, D. J. Ames and W. T. Wilkins. John Walsh was elected president and C. H. Davidson secretary. The company prospered for a time, but is now out of existence. The buildings were located on the south side of Bridge street, just east of the river. A. B. Hunkins also conducted a canning concern here in 1896 and 1897.

The Austin Plow and Harrow Works is the oldest of Austin's industries, putting out plows and harrows of exceptional wearing qualities. The company was formerly known as the Smith & Johnson Company and its name is a familiar one to all agricultural implement dealers and farmers of the Northwest. The Everlasting steel harrow, made in the Austin Plow and Harrow Works, is shipped to all agricultural states. It is a hand-made product and the best of material enters into its construction. The company was established in 1867 by Seymour Johnson and R. O. Hunt. In 1870, L. S. Mitchell entered the firm in place of Mr. Hunt, and in 1872, H. S. Smith replaced Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Smith died in 1893, and in 1900, Mr. Johnson sold out to the Smith heirs.

MODERN INDUSTRIES

George A. Hormel & Co., pork packers and provision dealers, operate Austin's largest industry; and with the railroads this company constitutes the chief source of revenue of Austin's laboring population. It has also been an important factor in developing the dairy and swine interests of the surrounding country districts. During the past year the sales of this company have amounted to over \$4,000,000. The total tonnage of this year's business was 59,179,521 pounds, an increase of some 4,000,000 over the previous year. The product is marketed in all parts of the United States and in England, when conditions in that market are favorable.



GEORGE A. HORMEL & CO.

In 1887, a young man, George A. Hormel, who had previously had considerable experience in the provision and packing trade, selected the prairies of southern Minnesota as the field of his future operations; and, as a beginning of greater work which he hoped later to accomplish, came to Austin, and with Albert L. Friedrich engaged in the retail meat business under the firm name of Friedrich & Hormel. October 1, 1891, this partnership was dissolved and in January, 1892, Mr. Hormel started in the retail meat business, this being the beginning of the present institution of George A. Hormel & Co. In November, 1901, the company incorporated with a capital stock of \$50,000, equally divided between preferred and common, the organizers being George A. Hormel, Herman G. Hormel, A. L. Eberhart, John G. Hormel and B. F. Hormel. These gentlemen are still identified with the company, and being particularly well fitted for their positions they have labored together for what has become the Hormel "idea" and "ideal." Realizing that the superior quality of the Hormel product is responsible for the growth of the business, the men who have been active in its development have had an unusual incentive to maintain its high standard. In their personal supervision of the various departments, this is their constant aim. The first officers were as at present: President, George A. Hormel; vice president, Herman G. Hormel; secretary, A. L. Eberhart; treasurer, John G. Hormel; director, B. F. Hormel.

The packing business of the concern was inaugurated on the present site of the plant, in a small frame building, in 1892. During that year 610 hogs were slaughtered. From this beginning the plant has increased until it now has a capacity of 2,000 hogs daily. Buildings have been erected and extensive alterations made every year as the business has increased. At the present time the plant has 224,000 square feet of floor space, and from 300 to 550 men are employed, according to the season of the year. April 13, 1906, the capital stock was increased to \$1,000,000, and May 1, 1909, to \$1,150,000. Aside from the packing plant the company conducts a model provision market, which is one of the most modern and sanitary in southern Minnesota.

Ever since the beginning, it has been the aim of the company to reach out for the fancy meat trade, which is supplied with Dairy Brand hams, bacon and lard, which for quality and fine flavor have no equal. The hams and bacon are cured by a special process discovered by Mr. Hormel after a quarter of a century of experimenting. The brand "Dairy" is placed upon the highest grade of meats only. The pig from which this brand of meats is made is found only in the dairy districts of southern Minnesota. This pig is fed on skim milk from the creameries and upon corn.

This kind of food produces a rich lean ham and bacon. In establishing the plant in Austin the purpose was to be at the center of the dairy districts, where hogs, fattened under ideal conditions of climate, pasturage, pure air and sparkling spring water, might find a market at home, with none of their excellencies marred by long travel. Absolute cleanliness has been the idea and perfection the ideal. In addition to the minute care exercised by the Hormel company, the government also maintains a corps of skilled veterinarians and inspectors at the plant.

With Austin as headquarters, branches are maintained at Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, and the business is constantly growing.

The Minnesota Farmers' Brick and Tile Company is one of Austin's newer industries, but already gives promise of becoming one of its most important. The Indians who hunted through this county used clay from the vicinity of Austin for their rude pottery. Soon after the settlers came, the value of the clay deposit here was realized, and at various times efforts have been made to manufacture and market clay products. For various reasons none of these efforts except the latest one continued, although each successive effort demonstrated more thoroughly the excellence of the clay and shale found here.

In the fall of 1909, a body of men determined to take advantage of this rich deposit by manufacturing tile and brick on an extensive scale. A company was therefore duly organized and incorporated and capitalized at \$400,000, divided equally between common and preferred stock. The officers were: President, L. A. Smith; vice president, W. H. Gleason; treasurer, R. L. Johnson; secretary, W. H. Gleason, Jr. The directors were L. A. Smith, W. M. Colby, R. L. Johnson, W. H. Gleason, W. H. Gleason, Jr., J. A. Sullivan and W. M. Sweiger.

The buildings were started December 16, 1909, and the first carload of finished product was shipped July 16, 1910. The daily output is now about ten carloads. The present officers are as at first. About one hundred men are employed. The company owns 100 acres lying on the main line of the Chicago Great Western, and it is expected that quite a village will spring up around the plant. At the present time the site is occupied by an office building which demonstrates the beauty of the brick manufactured by the company, twelve kilns, a large brick dryroom four stories high, a millroom where the manufacturing is done, a boiler and engine house and an electric light and power plant, as well as the large clay pit.

The process starts at the clay bed. This deposit of clay is fully described in the United States geological survey report, and is too lengthy for reproduction here. It is sufficient to say that



MINNESOTA FARMERS BRICK AND TILE CO.

for its own particular purpose this deposit has no superiors in the Northwest, its peculiarity being its conjunction with a fine quality of shale. The clays are varied in color, running through bright greens, blues, reds and yellows, with all their shades and tints. The quantity and quality of the deposits have been thoroughly examined and tested, both chemically and structurally. It has been demonstrated that the material is practically pure and entirely free from any substance that can be detrimental to its use. The discovery of this deposit will be more fully appreciated when its physical properties are fully understood. The bed of clay lies high above the railroad and has an absolutely perfect natural drainage. It is easily secured, as it is covered by an average drift of less than twelve inches, and in some spots no stripping at all is required.

The material, which is soft and putty-like as it lies in its pocket, is excavated and placed in storage, where after a few days it becomes thoroughly seasoned. From this storage the clay is loaded into iron cars and is drawn by steel cables to the mixer, which is at the top of the building. From the hopper into which the material is dumped the clay goes into the granulator, where whatever is coarse is ground into powder. Never ceasing its motion from the time it leaves the pit, the clay, now granulated, moves in to the pug mill, is there dampened and then forced out through the die, in one continuous piece, of the shape and size desired. An automatic cutter cuts the product the desired length, and the pieces of brick or tile, as the case may be, are then loaded on cars and run through the drier. The product as soon as cured is taken to the kilns and burned with soft coal, after which it is loaded into railroad cars or piled in the yard and is ready for shipment. The principal product of the plant is building material and drainage tile, though other departments of the clay-working industry are being investigated and experimented with.

The product thus obtained is a much superior one. The tile is of a ware practicably indestructible. It is as hard as stone, it rings like a bell when struck, its glazed surface is as smooth as glass, it is waterproof and dustproof and impervious to acids and alkalies. Nothing sticks to it and nothing harms it. Frost and heat, wear and weather have no effect on it. It lasts practically forever. The government has accepted the brick as measuring fully up to government contract standard.

The company has done much and will do still more for the development of southern Minnesota. It furnishes employment for a number of men, it is increasing the manufacturing importance of Austin, it affords an opportunity for safe investment, and it is becoming a campaign of education by which the farmers

are coming to realize more and more the advantage of subsoil drainage.

The Gilbert Improved Corrugated Company conducts one of the growing industries of Austin. The heavily galvanized steel culvert which this company manufactures is unlike that of any other make, by reason of a fastener used in joining the parts. This fastener is not a rivet, which leaves an unprotected line the entire length of the culvert which sooner or later rusts out, but a contrivance which is galvanized and lasts as long as the culvert. The company's plant is located on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line, so that the product, which is shipped to all parts of the Northwest, can be loaded onto the cars at the firm's very doors. The machinery for making the culverts and the fasteners was invented and patented by the company. A branch is maintained at Aberdeen, S. D., and there, in addition to culverts, tanks and smokestacks are made. The concern was incorporated October 20, 1908, with a capital stock of \$25,000. The incorporators were Jens Larson, John Larson, W. E. LeBaron, C. E. Gilbert, A. O. Nelson, J. F. Austin, T. E. Wilson and L. A. Sherman. The first officers were: President, Jens Larson; vice-president, W. E. LeBaron; treasurer, A. O. Nelson; secretary, L. A. Sherman; general manager, C. E. Gilbert. The present officers are the same, with the exception of L. A. Sherman is now both secretary and treasurer. The capital stock has been increased to \$35,000.

The Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of the Austin Quack Grass Destroyer, conduct one of Austin's growing industries. The officers are: President, A. W. Wright; vice-president, Matt. Smith; secretary, E. H. Smith; treasurer, T. A. Revord; assistant secretary and manager, T. A. Revord; directors, A. W. Wright, R. R. Murphy, Matt. Smith, T. A. Revord, E. H. Smith, J. L. Gulden, J. E. Pitzen, N. Nichol森 and C. A. Hegge. This company was incorporated in 1905 and for the first three years put out a machine which, while it did good work, was far too expensive. About two years ago the company started another Quack Grass Destroyer, which sells for half what the first machine did and still does very much better work. No farmer need have much fear of this pest while such a machine can be obtained. The company is selling a great many of the machines, being behind on orders most of the time. Several dealers buy the machines in carload lots, as where they have been introduced they sell very easily.

The Austin Gas Company supplies some 600 customers and puts out about 1,000,000 cubic feet of gas a month. The company was incorporated for the manufacture and distribution of gas August 25, 1905, with the following officers: President, John R. Howie; vice-president, F. J. Gates; secretary, C. Leckbank. The

incorporators were these gentlemen and R. J. Breekinridge and LaFayette French. The present officers are: President, John R. Howie; vice-president, R. J. Breekinridge; secretary, F. J. Gates. The capital stock is \$60,000. The office of the company is at 133 Bridge street and the plant is on the east side of River street, north of East Winona. May 6, 1911, the plant was sold to Z. T. F. Runner, of Freeport, Illinois.

The F. H. McCulloch Printing Company was established in 1892 under the firm name of Hunkins & McCulloch, Mr. Hunkins then publishing the Austin Daily Herald and Mr. McCulloch having charge of the job printing. This partnership was dissolved in 1894 by the purchase by Mr. McCulloch of Mr. Hunkins' interest in the job department. The job printing business was then conducted separate from the Herald under the firm name of the F. H. McCulloch Printing Company. This business was first conducted in the rooms over the building on the corner of Main and Water streets. Later it was moved to the south end of Main street, and after a period of one year removed back to the old quarters. Owing to increasing business in 1900 larger quarters were secured in the Schleuder block, west of the courthouse, and in 1902, again becoming cramped for space, they removed to the Joseph Keenan one-story building, on Bridge street, where they occupied the entire building until 1910, when they removed to the present location, 200-202 Chatham street. In 1908, owing to the fast increasing business and the necessity for more capital, the business was incorporated under the firm name of The F. H. McCulloch Printing Company, with an authorized capital of \$50,000. The first officers under the corporation being: F. H. McCulloch, president and manager; A. M. Lewis, vice-president; W. B. Edwards, secretary, and J. L. Mitchell, treasurer. The same officials are holding the same positions at the present time. Printing and publishing is the business of the company, making a specialty of the finest kind of catalog work, both in color work and half-tones. Their product is shipped to every state in the Union west of the Mississippi river and to a few states in the East. An up-to-date linotype plant is run in connection, setting the type for from twelve to fifteen newspapers in this section. From fifteen to twenty people are constantly employed and the prospects indicate that this number will be doubled in the next two years. At the present time two floors of the building occupied are devoted to the business, with the third floor held in reserve for future needs. This year a new line of business has been added in the importing and jobbing of wall pockets, leather goods, aluminum goods, advertising novelties and the manufacture of calendars, which necessitated a salesman being placed on the road. This establishment is equipped with

the latest and best machinery for the execution of high class printing and its present large clientage is an excellent criterion for its future success.

The Peerless Rolling Mills. Since the earliest days the east side of the Red Cedar river, near where Water street crosses it, has been the site of a mill. For many years the Engle mill was there, and in modern times the Peerless Roller Mills, owned and operated by A. S. Campbell, occupy the same site. The modern history of the mills dates from 1886, when A. S. and L. G. Campbell purchased a small mill near the C., M. & St. P. railroad station. In 1890 they purchased the old Engle mill. Alexander S. Campbell is now the sole proprietor. The mills are run partly by power derived from a water wheel, but the greater part of the power is generated in the lower mill, some miles down the river, and transmitted by wire to the mills on Water street, where it is belted to the main driving shaft.

The Austin mills have a capacity of 200 barrels of flour every twenty-four hours. They manufacture the celebrated Peerless, Diamond White and White Rose wheat flour, not only for domestic trade, but for export, the company making large shipments to Great Britain. They also manufacture buckwheat flour and corn meal. A. S. Campbell is the proprietor of the Peerless Flour Mills in Austin and also of the Red Cedar Mills, which are located five miles south of the city. These mills run constantly, never shutting down except for repairs. The product is the equal of any in the great flour state and enjoys a reputation with the best. It is in greatest demand by the discriminating housewife and baker.

The Red Cedar Mills, located south of the city, are under the same ownership as the Peerless Roller Mills. The mills were built in 1867 and 1868, by Jonathan Gregson. In 1875 the building was enlarged and improvements were again made in 1879. The first roller system in this county was introduced in this mill. The plant is now equipped with a dynamo, which furnishes power for the mills and also for the Peerless Mills at Austin.

The Schleuder Paper Company, wholesale paper dealers and manufacturers of souvenir postal cards, was started in January, 1901, at 305 Main street. Later it was moved to 124 Bridge street, where the company expects soon to open a large retail store, to be devoted exclusively to the stationery business. The building and warehouses were erected in 1903, and all the buildings now occupied by the concern furnish a floor space of about 15,000 square feet. About twenty hands are employed. The printers' stock, wrapping paper, stationery and bags handled by the company find a ready market in Minnesota, Iowa and North and South Dakota, while the souvenir postal cards made here are

sold from coast to coast. The concern manufactures a great many of its specialties, such as tablets, etc., and has a large plant devoted to the making of souvenir postal cards and to the hand coloring of local view post cards. The officers of the company are: President, G. Schleuder; vice-president and treasurer, F. A. Schleuder.

Sven Anderson & Son started in the implement and carriage business March 1, 1896, in a building at 212 Bridge street, on the present site of the Elk Hotel. About January 1, 1897, the monumental and cut stone business was added to the implement business. During the winter of 1899-1900 the building at 216-218 North Chatham street was erected and occupied. There the business was conducted until February 15, 1909, when the implement department was sold to Anderson & Brown. The monument department was continued at its present location. January 1, 1906, the shop, stock, etc., of T. J. Abrahams was purchased and conducted at the corner of Water and Franklin streets until the lease of the grounds expired, August 1, 1908, at which time the present shop building was completed and occupied. The business is principally confined to the making and setting of monumental work in this and adjoining counties, although work has also been done in all of the adjoining states. The soldiers and sailors' monument and in fact all the larger monuments in the local cemetery are from this concern, as indeed are most of the larger monuments throughout the county. In connection with the monumental work the company furnishes cut stone work and has executed many heavy contracts in this line in Mower and Freeborn counties, as well as in other parts of Minnesota and in Iowa.

Railroad Industry. The railroads in Austin give employment to some one hundred and fifty men. In 1867 the machine shops and roundhouse of the C., M. & St. P. were constructed here. In 1887 this company moved its shops here from Wells, receiving as a bonus from the city \$10,000 in money and ten acres of land. Austin is one of the big railroad centers of Minnesota. Here passengers change cars going north, south, east and west, for Austin is the division point of six divisions of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. Through the heart of the city runs the through line of the Chicago Great Western, between St. Paul and Omaha. Through the city will pass the fast freights from Puget Sound to Chicago over the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road. Fourteen passenger trains and forty freight trains run into and out of Austin on an average every day in the year. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company pays from \$23,000 to \$25,000 every month to its employes in this city. The shops and roundhouse of this company give employment to a large and increasing force of the best mechanics, for here every

engine on 1,000 miles of road comes to be repaired and refitted at stated intervals. Forty-six of these iron horses are cared for exclusively in these shops. Every day from thirty to thirty-five locomotives may be counted in the yards and the roundhouse. Austin is the inspecting point and every time, night or day, that a train comes into this city on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul line, every Pullman car, every day coach, every freight car is inspected. There are fifty-two Pullman and day coaches cleaned here daily and their sanitary condition inspected.

The Austin Dairy Company was organized April 1, 1903, under the name of Austin Co-Operative Milk Company, for the purpose of bottling and selling milk and cream, and later for buying hand-separated cream for making butter. The company was organized with a capital stock of \$6,000, with F. W. Kimball, president; C. B. Dibble, treasurer, and J. J. Rugg, secretary and manager. The business was located on the corner of Chatham street and Oakland avenue. On September 30, 1905, a meeting of the stockholders was held, at which time the capital stock was increased to \$20,000, the name changed to Austin Dairy Company, the same officers, except treasurer (D. H. Stimson being elected for that place), elected, and the company incorporated. The building at 112 East Maple street was bought and put in shape to be used as a milk station and creamery, and the latter part of October, 1905, the company moved from their old quarters to their own building. In the fall of 1906 the building was enlarged and ice cream machinery put in, since which time they have manufactured ice cream during the summer time. After the death of Mr. Stimson in July, 1907, Mrs. D. H. Stimson was elected treasurer. Otherwise the officers have remained the same. In the fall of 1910 the company bought the property on the corner of Mill and Franklin streets, known as the Majors building, since which time they have been carrying on a produce business in eggs and poultry. The company employs six men and two women regularly, and in rush seasons a half a dozen more men are employed.

The North Star Dairy Company also does a flourishing business. A history of this concern is found in the biographical sketch of Charles B. Dibble, elsewhere in this volume.

Austin's Cement Products. Cement drain tile has been demonstrated to be one of the best materials for farm drainage.

Nels Mickelson manufactures not only cement block, brick and tile, but also cement sewer pipe two feet in diameter. The city of Austin has used much of this sewer pipe and finds it as satisfactory as the vitrified clay product.

C. E. Dickens is one of the oldest of the cement workers and

beside the ordinary cement product he produces much ornamental cement work.

Thomas Rochford also manufactures fine grades of cement block. He makes a steel reinforced cement post that is much in use for fencing pastures and fields.

M. P. Underberger lays cement sidewalks and does cement working.

The Austin Cement Stone and Tile Company was organized and incorporated under the state laws of Minnesota, April, 1908, for the purpose of manufacturing cement drain tile, building blocks, brick, fence posts and such other articles as pertain to cement construction. The original capital stock was \$50,000 preferred and common, the incorporators and first officers being: President, C. H. Webber; secretary, J. L. Mitchell; treasurer and manager, E. W. Marsh. The officers still remain the same. The plant is located in the city of Austin, just south of the George A. Hormel & Co. plant, and the building is of heavy concrete block, equipped with the latest modern machinery, including a forty horse-power boiler and a twenty-five horse-power electric motor. The plant has a floor space of 9,000 square feet, including three steam-tight curing rooms. Some fifteen to eighteen men are employed. The daily output of the drain tile varies from 3,000 to 5,000 per day, according to the size. The drain tile and building blocks find a large market in Austin and vicinity, but much is also shipped to distant points. This plant is the first of its kind started in this city, and has been very successful. Its aim is to excel in the quality of its manufactured goods, and all its products are steam-cured and made by the latest improved methods. The company owns the land upon which the plant is located and also a fine sandpit of fifteen acres. The office is at 121 North Main street.

Woodworking. Austin has two woodworking establishments, those of C. F. Stillman and Henry Waterman. The story of these plants is told in the sketches of their respective owners.

Printing and Binding. Austin has an excellent book bindery, that of J. M. Beck, and each of the newspapers have job printing departments. The McCulloch company is mentioned elsewhere.

Machine and Wagon Shops. Austin has two splendid machine shops, each employing mechanics capable of doing any repair work and doing it well and quickly. There are two wagon shops where vehicles are not only repaired but where new ones are built for the trade. A gunmaker is also located here. The machine shop proprietors are J. E. Hanson and Arthur Carlson; the wagon makers, J. Z. Rogers and W. M. Hanson, and the gunmaker is Henry C. Waldecker. There are three exclusive blacksmith establishments, Sorenson & Neilson and Lars Hansen.

Austin Candy Company manufactures all grades of pure confections from taffy to creams. It ships goods as far west as McLeod, Mont. It also manufactures for the jobbers in the Twin Cities and for the local trade. Experienced candy makers are employed.

The Cummings Brush Manufacturing Company has been in operation since August, 1910, and while only a new business, it has created a great demand for its manufactured goods. The Cummings brushes are on the market in many of our largest cities, handled by jobbers and wholesalers in Cincinnati, New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha, Council Bluffs, Minneapolis, St. Paul, LaCrosse, Dubuque, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids and many other towns and villages. Mr. Cummings has put out a very neat and up-to-date catalogue and his system of putting manufactured goods on the market has proved a success in every line he has undertaken. Mr. Cummings will add more machinery and increase the capacity to meet the demands for his manufactured goods.

T. F. Cummings Bottling Works.—In February, 1894, this concern was started in a small way and now its daily capacity is 500 cases. All kinds of soft drinks are made and bottled here. The water used is from the Trio Siloam springs. These springs are of the purest water and as they have medicinal qualities are carbonated and bottled. Mr. Cummings prides himself that every constituent that is used in the manufacture of his bottled goods is the purest that the market affords. Mr. Cummings also has a large trade in table and bar glassware.

E. H. Smith Land & Loan Company. This business was established November 1, 1900, with E. H. Smith as manager and remains the same at this date. For several years the business consisted principally of buying and selling western lands particularly in western Minnesota and North Dakota, also doing considerable business in western Canada. Since 1905 the firm has done a large business in Montana in both irrigated and dry lands. Commencing with the fall of 1909 it has done a large business in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa selling principally to central Iowa and northern Illinois farmers, and during this period has located nearly one hundred well-to-do farmers from the east and south in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa. It also does an extensive farm loan business, marketing its securities principally in the east. It also has one of the leading fire insurance agencies in the city. The E. H. Smith Land & Loan Company was the first exclusive real estate and loan business established in the county. Mr. Smith was born and raised in Mower county, has traveled extensively through the middle and

western states, and is, without doubt, one of the best posted real estate men in the Northwest.

Austin Cement Works. In the spring of the year 1893 Frank Fowler, the senior member of the copartnership of Fowler & Pay, quarry owners and manufacturers of building materials of Mankato, Minn., finding that the trade required something better for stone and brick building purposes than the mortar in general use at that time, and being a geologist of more than the average knowledge and a chemist of no mean ability, he started a general search for a particular kind of stone from which a first class grade of natural cement could be manufactured. After much seeking over this and adjoining states and an almost discouraging number of fruitless experiments with the different kinds of stone found, the particular kind of stone wanted was finally located in Mower county, Minnesota, three and one-half miles south of the city of Austin on the banks of Rose creek (a tributary of the Cedar river) near both the Chicago Great Western and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways, thereby affording the best of shipping facilities. The necessary land containing this stone was immediately secured, all preparations made and the building of this works started early in the following year (1894). This work, consisting of opening a stone quarry, grading for the railroad tracks, erecting buildings containing about two acres of floor space and installing the machinery was rushed to completion in record time under the able personal supervision of the then, as now, only members of the firm, Frank Fowler and Frank B. Pay, at a cost of about \$50,000 and named the Austin Cement Works. After a short period of successful manufacture of a first class grade of cement known as Austin natural cement, the entire works were destroyed by fire. This calamity coming so soon after the expense of building the works and creating a demand for its product would naturally be very discouraging to the strongest hearts and a much larger bank account, but the owners of the remaining pile of ashes and ruined machinery being men of the "never say die" type immediately resumed work where they had so recently finished and erected buildings one-third larger than those destroyed by the fire. This work, as before, was rushed to completion and the finished product placed on the market in the shortest possible time without having sold or offered any stock for sale, Fowler & Pay still being the sole owners and operators. The works have been in almost constant operation since the time of rebuilding and employ twenty-five men daily, improvements having been made from time to time that have increased the capacity to 100,000 barrels annually of a better grade of natural cement and bricklayers' cement than any natural cement works in this country. This cement is recom-

mended for all kinds of brick and stone building purposes, under street paving, cellar floors and cisterns, as it sets quite rapidly under water; a market for the bulk of this material is found throughout the great Northwest. In connection with the Austin Cement Works there are five family houses and a large boarding house for the convenience of the employees who desire to live near their work, also a large farm, a part of which the resident employees have for pasture and gardening purposes, rent free. It has always been the policy of this firm to treat its customers, employees, neighbors and friends with the utmost consideration in all business or other affairs, and they have shown their appreciation for seventeen years by there never having been any serious litigation, labor troubles or any disturbance that is so disastrous to the good will that should exist between all parties concerned.

Other industries of Austin are as follows: Real estate and insurance: E. H. Smith Land Company, Four Counties Land Company, Southern Minnesota Land Company, Gilbert Sorfaten, James Snieder, F. P. Dawes & Co., F. A. Tichenor, Lyman D. Baird, Alfred C. Page, Rockford Land Company, C. H. Webber, J. D. Sheedy. Fuel: Gripman Bros., John F. Fairbanks, Mower County Co-operative Elevator and Fuel Company, and all the lumber yards. Stock dealers: F. P. Dawes, A. R. Thompson, W. P. Miner, Elihue B. Smith. Horse dealers: Edward D. and Michael J. Feeney. Junk dealers: Charles Dubinsky, R. Rosenthal. Telephones: Interstate, Northwestern. Liveries: Furtney & Bassett, H. O. Peck. Hacks and carriages: John R. Mears. Bakeries: Home bakery, People's bakery, A. V. McConnell. Barbers: Roy Woodard, Martin, Lee, A. M. Lee, A. C. Hanson, Gyp. Hillam, George Heimer, C. W. Brown, Roy Chaffee, William Bump, Putnam & Casper. Tailors: H. O. Herman, F. C. Price, William Cutter, Henry Jacobs. Auctioneers: Lovell & Herzog, J. S. Attlessey. Contractors and builders: Sullivan & Schroedel, George Beckel, Lars P. Erickson, T. Beatty, Torger Martinson, C. F. Stillman, Henry Waterman. Greenhouse: A. N. Kinsman. Nurseries: J. M. Lindsey, C. F. Woodle. Painters: W. J. Avery, J. L. Cooley. Theaters: Idle Hour, Bijou. Photographers: Fairbanks Bros., George Bucklin, H. C. Bishop, M. H. Vosburgh, Lee: Gripman Bros., S. L. Young. Austin Rug Co. Austin Brush Works. Lumber yards: F. I. Crane, Mower County Lumber Company, Eclipse Lumber Company. Elevators: Hunting Elevator Company, W. H. Symes. Grain buyers: E. T. Beemis, M. B. O'Halloran, W. H. Symes. Restaurants: Normal restaurant, the Gem, Anthony N. Roble. Hotels: Elk, Fox, Grand Depot, Harrington, Central, German, American. Agricultural implements: Austin Plumbing and Heating Company, W. A. Mur-

ray, Wm. Christie & Son. Meat dealers: J. P. Zender, H. P. Zender, Central Market. Laundries: Austin Steam Laundry, Austin Purity Laundry. Electricians: Bursh & Wood, Hummel Company.

CHAPTER XX.

AUSTIN FRATERNITIES

Masonic Orders—Odd Fellows—Pythian Orders—Catholic Orders—Order of Elks—Other Fraternal Orders—Patriotic Orders—Catholic Orders—Railroad Orders—Fraternal Insurance—Scandinavian and Teutonic Lodges Industrial—Driving Association—Edited by Osman J. Simmons.

The sociability and spirit of brotherliness which exists in Austin is shown by the number of societies and clubs that flourish here. Practically all the standard organizations are represented, some of the local lodges dating back to the seventies. In order to furnish a meeting place for this large number of orders, halls have been equipped as follows: Masonic hall, Elks' hall, Columbus hall, Kinsman's hall, G. A. R. hall, Harmona hall, I. O. O. F. hall, Commercial Club rooms, and the Woodmen's hall (Hirsch). All these halls are conveniently located, nicely furnished and well adapted to the purpose for which they are intended.

In this chapter it has been the aim to give briefly the history of the leading fraternities of Austin. The societies whose histories do not appear here are those whose secretaries have refused to furnish the desired information.

MASONIC ORDERS

Masonry in Austin dates back to the first year of the Civil war. The Masons of the city now have a fine hall and are represented by four local bodies: Austin Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M.; St. Bernard Commandery, No. 13, Knights Templar; Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, A. F. & A. M., and Unity Chapter, No. 29, O. E. S.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, A. F. & A. M., was organized December 5, 1861, under a dispensation granted by the Right Worshipful Grand Master of the State of Minnesota, the meeting being held at Masonic hall. The officers and members present were as follows: B. F. Jones, W. M.; E. W. Lord, S. W.; A. S. Lott, J. W.; H. C. Huntington, treasurer; Oliver Somers, secretary; E. Parli-man, T.; J. L. Clark, A. Galloway. A charter was granted by the

grand lodge October 28, 1863, and signed by the following grand officers: Most Worshipful A. T. C. Pierson, grand master; Right Worshipful S. Y. McMasters, D.D., LL. D., deputy grand master; Right Worshipful Levi E. Thompson, grand senior warden; Right Worshipful Clark W. Thompson, grand junior warden. The following were named as officers: B. F. Jones to be W. M., James C. Ackley to be S. W., and Oliver Somers to be J. W. The lodge was constituted February 3, 1864, and W. M. James C. Acklerly, who had previously been installed by A. T. C. Pierson, G. M., installed the following officers: O. Somers, S. W.; V. P. Lewis, J. W.; A. D. Fenton, treasurer; LeRoy Hathaway, secretary; O. W. Sawyer, S. D.; J. C. Smith, J. D.; H. Houseman, T.; H. C. Huntington, S. S.; A. S. Lott, J. S. The following have been grand masters: B. F. Jones, 1861-63; James Acklerly, 1864; Oliver Somers, 1865-66; LeRoy Hathaway, 1867-70; Daniel B. Johnson, Jr.; A. J. Phelps, 1869; G. G. Clemmer, 1871-73; John M. Greenman, 1874; William T. Wilkins, 1875-1880-81; I. Ingmundson, 1876-1878-79; J. W. Eldridge, 1877; Charles L. West, 1882-1886; Joseph Adams, 1883-84-85; William Todd, 1887-88-89-1905; Lewis E. Day, 1890; Sumner A. Emerson, 1891-92-93; Russell E. Shepherd, 1894-95; Alfred C. Page, 1896-97; Fred B. Wood, 1898-99; John H. Anderson, 1900-01-02; John H. Robertson, 1903-04; M. O. Anderson, 1906-07; George Dutcher, 1908; Peter Hanson, 1909-10; Fred C. Ulmer, 1911. The present officers are: Fred C. Ulmer, W. M.; Fred L. Williams, S. W.; Gustave Butzke, J. W.; Charles L. West, treasurer; Floyd H. Ober, secretary; O. J. Benton, S. D.; William P. Bennett, J. D.; Rev. B. H. Whiston, C.; J. W. Hare, S. S.; Guy V. Burlingame, J. S.; Charles E. Warren, T. The present Masonic hall on the second floor of the Schleuder building is owned jointly by the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery. A site has been purchased on Water street, facing the north end of Chatham street, for the purpose of erecting thereon a Masonic temple. John M. Greenman is the oldest living past master of the lodge, and Charles L. West, one of the past masters, is past deputy grand master of the state grand lodge.

Austin Chapter, No. 14, Royal Arch Masons, was organized under a dispensation, March 8, 1867, the following officers having been appointed by Grand High Priest B. F. Smith: Charles H. Paddock, H. P.; Solomon Snow, K.; A. B. Vaughan, S. The companions present were E. C. Dorr, C. B. Staples, W. W. Brownson, B. F. Jones, J. F. Sargent and C. Tripp. The dispensation had been granted to the following companions: Charles H. Paddock, C. B. Staples, E. C. Dorr, Solomon Snow, S. Partridge, B. F. Jones, A. W. White, A. B. Vaughan and W. W. Brownson. A charter was granted by the grand chapter, October 23, 1867,

and signed by the following grand officers: B. F. Smith, G. H. P.; Charles N. Danils, D. G. H. P.; A. T. C. Pierson, G. K.; C. W. Nash, G. S., being consecrated December 25, 1867. The following officers, who had previously been elected, were installed: C. H. Paddock, H. P.; S. Snow, K.; A. B. Vaughan, S.; H. M. Allen, C. of H.; C. J. Paddock, P. S.; L. R. Hathaway, R. A. C.; B. F. Jones, M. of third V.; L. A. Sherwood, M. of second V.; G. G. Clemmer, M. of first V.; S. Smith, treasurer; J. C. Smith, secretary; L. W. Smith, sentinel. The following have been high priests: Charles H. Paddock, 1867-68; C. J. Paddock, 1868-69; A. J. Phelps, 1869-70; C. J. Paddock, 1870-71; Solomon Snow, 1871-73; A. J. Phelps, 1873-74; R. B. Davis, 1874-75; I. Ingmundson, 1875-76; Charles L. West, 1876-77; I. Ingmundson, 1877-78; Charles L. West, 1878-82; Eugene Wood, 1882-88; Nathan Kingsley, 1888-90; Charles L. West, 1890-93; William Todd, 1893-97; George W. Bliss, 1897-1900; R. L. Johnson, 1900-01; George Doehne, Jr., 1901-03; Wallace Gregson, 1903-07; Thaddeus S. Thompson, 1907-08; John H. Anderson, 1908-09; I. T. Tollifson, 1909-10; Thaddeus S. Thompson, 1911. The present officers are: Thaddeus S. Thompson, H. P.; Peter Hanson, K.; G. M. F. Rogers, S.; William Todd, treasurer; Floyd H. Ober, secretary; F. L. Williams, C. of H.; R. L. DeGroodt, P. S.; Guy Burlingame, R. A. C.; W. P. Bennett, M. of third V.; C. A. Carlson, M. of second V.; Irvin Fox, M. of first V.; C. E. Warren, sentinel. Of the past high priests, C. L. West, William Todd and Nathan Kingsley are past grand high priests of the state grand chapter, and Judge Kingsley is grand high priest of the general grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America and her dependencies.

St. Bernard Commandery, No. 13, Knights Templar, had its beginning January 20, 1881, when the Grand Commander of the State of Minnesota granted to D. B. Smith, as E. C.; Eugene Wood as G. and J. S. Anderson as C. G., permission to organize a commandery at Austin. The first conclave was held January 31, 1881, and the above named officers were present. The eminent commander appointed the following officers: D. B. Johnson, Jr., prelate; J. G. Warner, S. W.; Stephen Ives, J. W.; E. C. Dorr, treasurer; C. H. Davidson, recorder; John Mahoney, standard bearer; M. E. Frisbee, S. W.; John Frank, warden; A. K. Vanderwalker, sentinel. The charter was granted by the grand commandery, January 24, 1881, and was signed by the following grand officers: William Williston, G. C.; Robert L. McCormick, D. G. C.; Luther Z. Rogers, G. G.; William G. Bronson. The commandery was duly constituted July 28, 1881, by Grand Commander R. L. McCormick, assisted by L. Z. Rogers, G.; Henry Birkett, C. G.; L. Wheelock, P. There were present twenty-three

Sir Knights of the commandery at Owatonna, and the following officers were duly installed: D. B. Smith, E. C.; Eugene Wood, G.; J. S. Anderson, C. G.; E. B. Crane, P.; E. C. Dorr, treasurer; C. H. Davidson, recorder; W. H. Sutherland, S. W.; F. D. Decker, J. W.; A. Friedrich, St. B.; E. R. Daniels, S. B.; E. H. Gerard, warden; J. B. Beecher, George Hamberg, H. W. Wilson, guards; A. K. Vanderwalker. The following have been the commanders: D. B. Smith, 1881-85; Eugene Wood, 1885-87; J. S. Anderson, 1887-88; A. Friedrich, 1888-89 and 1894-95; C. L. West, 1889-90; C. I. Johnson, 1890-91; B. F. Farmer, 1891-92; Nathan Kingsley, 1892-94; N. S. Gordon, 1896-97; Henry Birkett, 1897-98; A. Mol-lison, 1898-99; George W. Bliss, 1899-1900; F. B. Wood, 1901-02; John Ober, 1902-03; George Doehne, Jr., 1903-04; George E. Anderson, 1905-06; William Todd, 1906-07; Wallace Gregson, 1907-08; C. F. Lewis, 1908-09; A. C. Page, 1909-11; J. H. Anderson, 1911. The present officers are: J. H. Anderson, E. C.; William Crane, G.; A. C. Page, C. G.; F. L. Williams, S. W.; G. M. F. Rogers, J. W.; J. L. Mitchell, treasurer; W. P. Bennett, recorder; C. L. West, prelate; Peter Hanson, St. B.; Jacob Nicholson, Sw. B.; William Cutter, W.; C. E. Warren, sentinel. Eugene Wood is the oldest living past commander. C. L. West, a past commander, has been grand commander of the state commandery.

Unity Chapter, No. 29, O. E. S., was organized March 20, 1890. The first officers were: Mrs. Abbie L. Crane, worthy matron; Eugene Wood, worthy patron; Mrs. Fannie Gordon, secretary. The present officers are: Mrs. Eloise Williams, worthy matron; Floyd Ober, worthy patron; Mrs. Edith K. Robinson, secretary; Mrs. Lena Dawes, treasurer; Cora Dovenburg, conductress; Kate Todd, assistant conductress; Ada, Mrs. Gladys Dockstader; Ruth, Helen Olson; Esther, Mrs. Eva Hope; Martha, Mrs. Alice Hall; Electa, Frances Lewis; chaplain, Mrs. Rose Pettingill; marshal, Mrs. Jesse Hall; organist, Mrs. Nellie Allen; warden, Mrs. Nellie DeGroodt; sentinel, Mrs. E. C. Sutherland.

ODD FELLOWS

Odd Fellowship in Austin dates from 1867. The order is now represented in Austin by three bodies, Austin Lodge, No. 20, I. O. O. F.; Austin Encampment, No. 29, I. O. O. F., and Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 4, I. O. O. F.

Austin Lodge, No. 20, I. O. O. F., received its charter, December 5, 1867, and the lodge was instituted with the following charter members; H. A. Mahew, E. P. LeSuer, O. S. Druery, Stephen Ives, L. G. Dudley, Oliver Somers, Aaron S. Everest, Basil Smout, L. W. Smith, Tyler W. Woodard, A. J. Phelps, L.

Bouregard, N. P. Austin, R. J. Smith and Joseph Schwan. The first meeting was held in a building on the site now occupied by the Austin Furniture Company. Afterwards meetings were held on the third floor of Richards' block, corner of Main and Mill street. The lodge owns the west half of Odd Fellows block, and is free from debt, with a good surplus in its treasury. It has at the present time 420 members on the register, and is in a most flourishing condition. On two occasions it has been honored signally by the selection from its ranks of grand masters as follows: H. A. Mahew, 1869; D. H. Stimson, 1897. Both of these gentlemen served the state lodge with credit and distinction. The first elective officers of Austin lodge were H. A. Mahew, N. G.; Oliver Somers, V. G.; E. P. LeSuer, secretary; O. S. Druery, treasurer. The present elective officers are Frank Felch, N. G.; James King, V. G.; E. F. Peck, secretary; Fuller Mann, treasurer; H. P. Chapin, chaplain.

Following is a list of the early Noble Grands: H. A. Mahew, Oliver Somers, A. S. Everest, R. I. Smith, C. H. Davidson, Joseph Schwan, Herman Gunz, A. G. Lawyer, George F. French, E. P. Van Valkenburgh, John Chandler, Rush B. Davis, F. J. Mayhew, A. E. Meigs, P. O. French, Joseph Reinsmith, Lafayette French, D. H. Stimson, A. W. Kimball, C. H. Wilbotur, H. W. Elms, Edward Bigelow, W. H. H. Bullock, John V. Owens and S. Sweningsen.

Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 4, I. O. O. F., was instituted March 10, 1870, with twenty-four charter members. It has been prominent in charitable work and has furnished a pleasing social feature to Odd Fellowship in Austin. The present officers are: Mrs. Maria Edson, N. G.; Mrs. Fannie Herzog, V. G.; Mrs. Inez M. Elward, secretary; Miss Myrtle Edson, treasurer.

PYTHIAN ORDERS.

The principles of the Pythian fellowship are represented in Austin by two bodies, Austin Lodge, No. 55, K. P., and Flora Temple, No. 26, Pythian Sisters.

Austin Lodge, No. 55, K. of P., was instituted May 27, 1889, with forty-three charter members. The first officers were: C. C., H. R. Wood; V. C., L. Dettlebach; prelate, R. O. Hall; M. of E., A. B. Hunkins; M. of E., William M. Roberts; M. of A., Fred B. Wood; I. G., Sam. L. Collins; O. G., W. H. Benedict; trustees, E. B. Sterling, E. G. Potter and R. O. Hall. The present officers are: C. C., W. J. Urbatch; V. C., W. L. Van Camp; prelate, C. F. Cook; K. of R. and S. and M. of F., William Cutter; M. of E., H. A. Goslee; M. of W., O. J. Simmons.

ORDER OF ELKS.

The Elks in Austin are in flourishing condition, the membership is of a high degree, and the quarters are very pleasant.

Austin Lodge No. 414, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was instituted February 16, 1898, by District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler John E. King, of St. Paul. The ceremony of institution was held in the court room of the court house. The lodge then leased what is now known as Odd Fellows' hall and remained there until February 15, 1901, when they dedicated their present home. The first officers of the lodge were: Exalted ruler, R. J. Dowdall; E. L. K., J. J. Furlong; E. L. K., R. R. Murphy; E. L. K., T. C. Grant; secretary, W. A. Kubat; treasurer, E. Wood; tyler, J. J. Hayes; trustees, J. M. Greenman, Jos. Keenan and S. Sweningsen. The following have served as presiding officers of the lodge: R. J. Dowdall, J. J. Furlong, O. J. Simmons, A. S. Campbell, L. D. Baird, W. N. Kendrick, W. D. Rosbach, J. S. Wood, A. C. Page, J. L. Gulden, C. I. Riley, and E. H. Elward. The present officers are: Exalted ruler, Harry Rutherford; E. L. K., R. A. Woodward; E. L. K., J. J. Scallan; E. L. K., M. F. Dugan; secretary, J. S. Wood; treasurer, W. J. Urbatch; tyler, A. P. Moonan; trustees, P. Bump, O. J. Simmons and W. E. Terry. This lodge has been honored in the fact that O. J. Simmons was district deputy grand exalted ruler under Grand Exalted Ruler William J. O'Brien in 1904-05.

OTHER FRATERNAL ORDERS.

Lookout Aerie, No. 703, Fraternal Order of Eagles, and a nest of the Order of Owls, are located here, and have a fair membership among the young men of the city.

Lookout Aerie, No. 703, F. O. E., was instituted May 3, 1904, by J. W. Shadewald, S. D. G. P., with a charter list of sixty-six members. The first officers were: J. H. Bryon, P. W. P.; J. J. Adams, W. P.; W. R. Terry, W. V. P.; J. D. Smith, W. C.; W. L. Van Camp, W. S.; Frank Sargent, W. T.; George Dolan, W. Cond.; Max Erdman, I. G.; C. A. Gibson, O. G.; trustees, Charles Kaufman, H. J. Zender, J. E. Pitzen; aerie physician, C. J. Lewis. The present officers are: P. W. P., C. F. Lewis; W. P., George Robertson; W. V. P., H. W. Boody; W. C., J. C. Taney; W. Cond., L. G. Kappauf; secretary, F. M. Zebder; treasurer, F. C. Wilbour; trustees, W. R. Terry, M. A. Morgan, L. H. Grau; physician, H. F. Pierson. The present membership is 360. Since the organization \$6,200 has been paid in sick benefits. Funeral benefits have amounted to \$350. The society pays a seven-dollar-a-week

sick benefit and a \$50 funeral benefit. The aerie has at present \$2,000 at interest and \$600 in the treasury as a working balance, with an income of about \$270 a month.

The Order of Owls is one of the youngest of the local fraternities. The charter officers were: President, H. J. Zender; past president, Thomas Rochford; vice president, T. Lembrick; invocator, W. J. Rice; treasurer, Ben Hart; secretary, Peter Capretz; warden, Lester Woodward; sentinel, Tracey Smith; picket, Thomas Tracy; trustees, M. J. Mayer, Joseph Wolf and Otto H. Jensen. The present officers are: President, H. J. Zender; past president, Thomas Rochford; vice president, A. Speck; invocator, B. Speck; treasurer, Ben Hart; secretary, Peter Capretz; warden, C. Ward; sentinel, Eldred Ondrick; picket, J. C. Harris; director, C. H. Johnson; trustees, M. J. Mayer, Joseph Wolf and Otto H. Jensen.

PATRIOTIC ORDERS.

There are four patriotic orders in Austin, the McIntyre Post, No. 66, G. A. R.; McIntyre Corps, No. 27, W. R. C.; the Ladies of the G. A. R., and the Spanish-American War Veterans.

McIntyre Post, No. 66, Grand Army of the Republic. About 1872, a Post was organized at Austin and conducted for a time, but like many of the original G. A. R. posts, it soon disbanded. McIntyre Post, No. 66, was organized March 7, 1884, by A. Swift, assisted by Comrades C. A. Warren, M. B. Johnson, B. Maxwell, N. N. Parmenter, B. E. Stimson and others, of the Henry Rogers Post No. 11, G. A. R., at Brownsdale. The following were the first officers: Capt. W. H. Sutton, post commander; A. E. Christie, sen. vice commander; G. L. Case, jun. vice commander; Rev. W. E. Stanley, chaplain; H. W. Lightly, officer of the day; John V. Owens, quartermaster; C. N. Beiseker, officer of the guard; Seymour Johnson, adjutant; M. M. Trowbridge, sergeant major; H. B. Corey, Q. M. sergeant. It was voted to call the Post McIntyre, after Capt. P. T. McIntyre, of the 18th Wisconsin, and formerly county auditor and treasurer, who died in Austin about 1881. The vote stood twenty-six for "McIntyre," and twenty-five for "McPherson," in honor of General McPherson.

Below is appended a list of the members who joined March 1 and 15, 1884, with the regimental connection of each: P. J. Cratzer, Co. F, 151st Ind.; Seymour Johnson, Co. A, 32d Wis.; W. H. Whitham, Co. B, 106th N. Y.; W. E. Stanley, 29th Co., Mass. H. A. Vol.; J. A. Pierce, Co. A, 3d Wis.; George Fiehn, Co. A, 13th Wis.; J. R. Evans, Co. H, Batal. U. S. I. 16th Reg.; J. H. Mansfield, Col. Keng's Staff; D. E. Bero, Co. C, 9th Minn.; Sam.

H. Judd, Capt. Co. H, 153d Ill.; H. W. Lightly, Co. H, 29th Wis.; Francis Neller, Co. H, 2d Minn.; Jerry Ingalls, Co. I, 26th N. Y.; R. M. Boyd, Co. B, 37th Wis.; Chas. J. Miller, Sergt. Co. A, 1st Wis.; Wilson Beach, Corp. Co. H, 1st Minn. M. R.; Geo. W. Vareo, Co. B, 2d Minn. Cav.; J. H. DeRemer, Co. F, 3d Minn.; J. C. Hawkins, Corp. 2d Ohio H. Art.; William Brecken, Co. C, 9th Minn.; John Connor, Co. G, 6th Wis.; Abram Newell, Co. I, 17th Ill. Cav.; M. M. Trowbridge, Sergt. Co. C, 1st Wis.; A. E. Christie, Sergt. Co. D, 19th Wis.; Henry B. Corey, Corp. Co. A, 2d Minn. Cav. Reg.; John V. Owens, Co. K, 5th N. Y. H. A.; W. H. Sutton, Capt. Co. I, 31st Ohio.; G. L. Case, Capt. Co. H, 122d U. S. C. T.; Samuel Pinkham, Co. C, 3d Wis. Cav.; H. H. Kent, Landsman U. S. Navy; J. D. Woodward, Co. I, 1st N. Y. L. Art.; Orrin H. Brown, Sergt. Co. B, 115th N. Y.; W. D. Hogan, Corp. Co. K, 1st Conn. H. Art.; James Donaldson, Sergt. Co. E, 28th Wis.; S. W. Rice, Co. C, 9th Minn.; M. Becker, Co. D, 22d Wis. Inf.; G. S. Cooper, Co. G, 12th Wis.; Simeon Chapman, Co. I, 105th Pa.; H. G. Case, Sergt. Co. A, 2d Minn.; John E. Robinson, Corp. Co. B, 2d Minn. Cav.; E. P. Spooner, Sergt. Co. C, 9th Minn.; R. Brooks, Co. C, 17th Ind.; C. N. Beiseker, Co. F, 67th N. Y.; Jos. Stephenson, Co. C, 117th N. Y.; Isaac N. Howe, Co. M, 12th Ill. Cav.; Jehial Woodward, Co. B, 116th N. Y.; A. J. Sharpstine, Co. K, 142d N. Y.; Henry Peck, Co. B, 2d Minn.; D. B. Johnson, Jr., 1st Lieut. 1st Reg. Minn. M. R.; Walter F. Sutherland, Sergt. Co. B, U. S. Eng. Bat.; E. L. Merry, Co. F, 5th Minn.; John Robertson, Sergt. Co. F, 42d Wis.; Robert O'Brien, Co. H, 44th Wis.; William H. Waye, Co. I, 38th Wis.; C. P. Bell, Co. B, 2nd Minn. Cav.; M. C. Little, Co. K, 32d Wis.; E. R. Lathrop, chaplain, 10th Minn.; L. B. Fairbanks, Co. I, 3d Vt.; Henry A. Chapin, Co. I, 1st Minn.; A. H. Chapin, Co. C, 9th Minn.; L. Griffin, Co. H, 1st Minn. Rangers; I. J. Densmore, Sergt. 11th Wis.; J. S. Anderson, Co. I, 24th Wis.; A. D. Fairbanks, Co. E, 2d United States sharpshooters; P. Bump, 1st Lieut. Co. E, 22d Wis.; C. R. Paddock, Co. C, 115th N. Y.

In all 220 veterans have joined McIntyre Post. Of these sixty-six are still members and eighty-seven are dead. Sixty-seven have moved away or been suspended. The Post has a meeting hall of its own, having purchased a lot and building December 15, 1890. The present officers are: Commander, John Fairbanks; senior vice commander, Peter Cratzer; junior vice commander, R. N. Boyd; quartermaster sergeant, P. Bump; officer of the day, J. C. Hawkins; officer of the guard, E. Watkins; chaplain, J. D. Smith; surgeon, John Harpman; adjutant, J. H. DeRemer. The Post is one of the most flourishing in the state. In June, 1889, it had the pleasure of entertaining the Southern Minnesota G. A. R. Association.

McIntyre Corps, No. 27, W. R. C., was organized April 5, 1887, with twenty-two charter members. The first officers were as follows: President, Elizabeth McIntyre; senior vice president, Lottie Baird; junior vice president, Louisa Engle; secretary, Lizzie Sutton; treasurer, Mary Lovell; conductor, Lida Sutherland; assistant conductor, Emma Dorr; guard, Katie Johnson; assistant guard, Maggie Ingalls; chaplain, Mary Beach. The corps is now in a flourishing condition, with 102 members. The present officers are: President, Madge Smith; senior vice president, Mary Horrobin; junior vice president, Anna Gregg; secretary, Marietta Bump; treasurer, Clara Urbatch; chaplain, Emma Neller; conductor, Mattie Fairbanks; guard, Abbie Hilker; patriotic instructor, Elizabeth Mattice; press correspondent, Eva Davison; assistant conductor, Anna Seares; assistant guard, Mattie Williams; musician, Lulu Pitcher; color bearers, Nellie Hartley, Lou Hendricks, Laura Eddlebeck and Libby Roebuck. The corps is working in harmony with McIntyre Post, and in 1906 erected a \$1,200 monument on the soldiers' lot in Oakwood cemetery.

The I. K. Mertz Circle, No. 44, Ladies of the G. A. R., was organized in Austin, November 3, 1898, by Julia E. Lobdell. This organization is a patriotic one, similar in many respects to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and its membership is restricted to the wives, sisters, blood nieces, and direct female descendants of veterans of the Civil war; war nurses, Civil war veterans, and male descendants of Civil war veterans being admitted to honorary membership. The organization will be perpetuated by lineal descendants. The first officers of the local circle were: President, Maggie Goodwin; senior vice president, Hannah Bazter; secretary, Eva Webster; treasurer, Anna Fogarty; chaplain, Frances Rice; conductress, Ella Mady; assistant conductress, May Carter; guard, Maria Hall; assistant guard, Mary E. Bero. The present officers are: President, Eva Webster; senior vice president, Florence Chapin; junior vice president, Frances Watkins; chaplain, Eva Carter; treasurer, Eunice Floyd; conductress, Florence Wait; assistant conductress, Sarah Ondrick; guard, Mary Boyd; assistant guard, Isabelle Watkins.

CATHOLIC ORDERS.

Four organizations in Austin recruit their members from the Catholic church. They are: St. Augustine Court, No. 557, Catholic Order of Foresters; St. Monica Court, No. 374, Women's Catholic Order of Foresters; Austin Council, No. 1201, Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Total Abstinence Society.

RAILROAD ORDERS.

The importance of the railroad industry in Austin naturally brings hundreds of railroad employes to make their home here, and as a consequence all the great railroad orders have Austin divisions. Cedar River Division, No. 283, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen; Austin Division, No. 215, Order of Railroad Conductors; Austin Division, No. 102, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and Comet Lodge, No. 126, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, each have a goodly membership, and the ladies' auxiliary to each of these organizations are also important features in the life of the railroad people of the city.

Austin Division, No. 215, Order of Railroad Conductors was organized August 30, 1906, with the following charter members: E. E. Brooks, W. F. Clay, E. T. Dexter, A. J. Fox, W. B. Harter, Harry Hill, William James, Martin Keavy, Thomas Keating, C. T. Paine, W. R. Terry, William Plummer, Peter Gallagher, George Franklin, F. C. Tipp, Jacob Oleson, H. M. Warfield, A. F. McLean, Frank McAdams, John Rickard. The first officers were: Chief conductor, Thomas Keating; assistant chief conductor, H. M. Warfield; secretary and treasurer, W. R. Terry; senior conductor, W. F. Clay; junior conductor, William Plummer; inside sentinel, George Franklin; outside sentinel, Jacob Oleson. The present officers are: Chief conductor, J. D. McCormick; assistant chief conductor, Joseph Tucker; secretary and treasurer, W. B. Harter; senior conductor, W. F. Clay; junior conductor, W. R. Terry; inside sentinel, Joseph Kane; outside sentinel, Ole Tolbertson. From a membership of twenty, Austin Division has grown to a membership of fifty-three. This division is one of the best in its class and nearly every conductor running out of Austin on the five divisions of railroad is a member of Division 215. Each member is a good citizen and all are ready at all times to boost for Austin. The growth of the division has kept pace with the progress of the city and every member is true to the motto, Fidelity, Justice and Charity.

Volunteer Division, No. 123, Ladies Auxiliary to the Order of Railroad Conductors, was instituted May 19, 1898, with the following officers: President, Mrs. W. B. Terry; vice president, Mrs. Ida Clay; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. W. D. Plummer. The present officers are: President, Mrs. J. D. McCormick; vice president, Mrs. George Taylor; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. H. M. Warfield.

Austin Division, No. 102, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is one of the oldest fraternal societies in Austin. It was organized February 19, 1870, by Simon R. Clark, assisted by T. W. Hazelton. S. R. Clark was elected chief engineer and M.

E. Telfair first assistant engineer. William Anderson is the present chief engineer and Harry Matthews is the secretary and treasurer. The Austin division has a membership of ninety, with \$130,000 life and accident insurance in force.

The J. D. Beecher Division, No. 187, Ladies Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was organized January 25, 1894, by Mrs. C. J. Clark, grand organizer, of Winona, with the following charter members: Mrs. Wm. Anderson, Mrs. J. D. Beecher, Mrs. C. Campbell, Mrs. A. F. Mattice, Mrs. P. Chambers, Mrs. G. Smith, Mrs. M. Davey, Mrs. D. Sharrah, Mrs. H. Furtney, Mrs. J. Shook, Mrs. Thos. Flannigan, Mrs. J. Taylor, Mrs. C. Gilleece, Mrs. C. F. West, Mrs. J. Harriman, Mrs. E. G. Goth, Mrs. D. Hunt, Mrs. J. E. Ober, Mrs. R. Haseltine, Mrs. T. Clancey, Mrs. J. McDonald, Mrs. J. Murphy. Of these there are twelve who are still members of the order. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Wm. Anderson; vice president, Mrs. E. Goth; secretary, Mrs. H. Furtney; treasurer, Mrs. G. Smith; insurance secretary, Mrs. Harriman; chaplain, Mrs. A. F. Mattice; guide, Mrs. C. Campbell; sentinel, Mrs. T. Clancey; pillars, Mrs. C. Gilleece, Mrs. J. McDonald, Mrs. J. Harriman, Mrs. R. Haseltine. At present this order consists of thirty-seven members. The present officers are: Past president, Mrs. D. S. Barr; president, Mrs. M. McInerny; vice president, Mrs. C. Gilleece; insurance secretary, Mrs. S. E. Pettengill; secretary, Mrs. E. H. Kough; chaplain, Mrs. D. Hunt; treasurer, Mrs. L. Nelson; guide, Mrs. C. Erickson; sentinel, Mrs. M. Lang; marshals, Mrs. A. Damm, Mrs. R. Haseltine; musician, Mrs. Wm. Cook; pillars, Mrs. J. Lorenz, Mrs. T. Damm, Mrs. A. F. Mattice, Mrs. H. J. McDonald.

Pearl of Cedar Lodge, No. 223, Ladies Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, was organized July 29, 1901, with fifteen charter members and with the first vice grand mistress, Jeanette Turner in the chair. The meeting was held in the Engineers Hall, on East Water street, and the following officers were elected: Councilman, George C. Taylor; past mistress, Lizzie Brohm; mistress, Mary Nockels; vice mistress, Julia Dineen; treasurer, Mary Taylor; chaplain, Lucy Ellingson; secretary, Mayme Bushman; conductress, Ada Plum; warden, Olga Gordon; inner guard, Mary Bushman; outer guard, Emma Franklin. The charter was a gift to the ladies from the Cedar River lodge, No. 283, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. The present officers are: President, Mayme Bushman; vice president, Nellie Smith; chaplain, Anna Jeffries; treasurer, Mattie Fairbanks; secretary, Hazel Harmaney; conductress, Vinnie Montey; warden, Louisa Darr; inner guard, Blanch Larson; outer guard, Elizabeth Bloomfield; delegate, Nellie Smith; alter-

nate, Kate Weise. There are at present thirty members, and meetings are held in the Order of Railroad Conductors Hall.

FRATERNAL INSURANCE.

The oldest fraternal insurance order in Austin, antedates in its date of organization, all the present orders in Austin except the Masons, the Odd Fellows and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The fraternal insurance orders now in existence in Austin are: Austin Homestead, No. 443, Brotherhood of American Yeomen; Austin Tent, No. 16, Knights of the Maccabees; Queen Hive, No. 20, Ladies of the Maccabees; Austin Council, No. 53, Modern Samaritans; Van Dusko Camp, No. 243, Modern Woodmen of America; Austin Council, No. 1654, Royal Arcanum; Cedar Camp, No. 205, Royal Neighbors; Austin Assembly, No. 204, Equitable Fraternal Union; Austin Lodge, No. 31, Degree of Honor; Austin Lodge, No. 840, Mystic Workers of the World.

Austin Lodge, No. 32, Ancient Order of United Workmen was organized in Austin, October 24, 1877, with charter members to the number of thirty. The first officers of the lodge were: Past master workman, D. B. Smith; master workman, L. G. Wheeler; foreman, A. W. Kimball; overseer, F. A. Richardson; recorder, C. H. Wilbour; financier, E. P. Van Valkenburgh; receiver, Edwin French; guide, W. K. Hunkins; inside watchman, F. H. Sterling; outside watchman, John Chandler. The majority of the first officers and members are still living. Some have dropped from the order, but a large number are still faithful members after nearly thirty-four years of continued membership. The A. O. U. W. was the pioneer fraternal insurance order and the first to establish lodges in Minnesota and also the first in Austin. Austin Lodge, No. 32, has grown from a few members to an enrollment of over 600, and a present membership of 225, and has paid to the widows and orphans of its deceased members \$85,000. A record of which it may well be proud. The records of the lodge show that the men who have governed the lodge and helped to build it up are scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific, as the following list of the past master workmen will show: D. B. Smith, L. E. Day, Jas. Cronan, P. H. Zender, O. H. Harris, C. J. Hull, S. A. Smith, Geo. Robertson, E. C. Dorr, E. J. Phillips, Thos. F. Leonard, I. R. Wagner, John Rustad, E. W. Brennan, Peter Hanson, H. A. Gosler, W. K. Hawkins, L. Dettlebach, K. O. Wold, N. J. Strever, A. E. Hall, S. H. Harrson, L. C. Fairbanks.

The officers for the year 1911 are: Past master workman, H. A. Gosler; master workman, M. P. Underberger; foreman, Lafay-

ette Crandall; overseer, John Evenson; recorder, L. C. Fairbanks; financier, P. H. Zender; receiver, J. L. Mitchell; guide, E. J. Blomily; inside watchman, Jos. Leohmen; outside watchman, Frank Adams; grand representatives, P. H. Zender and H. A. Gosler; trustees, E. A. Dalager, Gorm Hanson, Peter Hanson. The A. O. U. W. order rates of assessments were changed two years ago to an absolutely adequate basis of rates and a large surplus has been accumulated. This year the Minnesota jurisdiction seceded from the national organization and Minnesota is now an independent organization with over 21,000 members. Austin lodge is adding new members and is in a very prosperous condition, with prospects of paying many more thousands to more firmly establish the home for those who are left to mourn.

Van Dusko Camp, No. 243, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized September 18, 1886, with thirty-seven charter members. The charter was granted October 20, 1886. Among the first officers were G. T. Mills, C. A. Pooler and L. F. Clausen. The camp now has a membership of 467. There have been forty-three deaths in the camp and over \$80,000 has been paid in benefit certificates. The present officers are: Consul, R. L. Furtney; advisor, R. J. Thomson; banker, H. A. Goslee; clerk, E. H. Sterling; managers, William Cutter, J. E. Detwiler and H. C. Waldecker.

Austin Council, No. 1654, Royal Arcanum, was organized and chartered October 7, 1895, with thirty-six members. The first officers were: Regent, N. S. Gordon; vice regent, G. F. Baird; orator, A. M. Lewis; past regent, A. C. Page; secretary, E. W. Davis; collector, J. A. Sands; treasurer, H. M. McGilvary; guide, H. F. George; chaplain, H. D. Fairbanks; warden, A. E. Dearborn; sentry, F. A. Brietlow; trustees, G. Schleuder, T. J. Abrahams, C. F. Cook. The officers for the year 1911 are as follows: Regent, R. L. DeGroot; vice regent, F. W. Greenman; orator, A. C. Page; past regent, F. E. Daigneau; secretary, J. M. Beck; treasurer, G. F. Baird; collector, J. E. Crippen; chaplain, H. D. Fairbanks; guide, Charles Mady; warder, F. G. Page; sentry, F. B. Davison. Since the organization of Austin Council there has been but one death claim paid, on the death of a local member. Mayor George F. Sutton, at the time of his death, was a member of the Royal Arcanum, and his widow was paid the death benefit. The Royal Arcanum is a fraternal insurance order, organized in Boston, Mass., June 23, 1877, and has been successful and economical in its management during the thirty-four years of its existence.

Cedar Camp, No. 205, Royal Neighbors of America, was organized October 25, 1895, with a good membership. Mrs. Alma

Kessler was the first oracle and Mrs. Flora E. Cota the first recorder. They were assisted by a band of loyal workers. The lodge membership has grown to nearly 200, and the present officers are: Oracle, Mrs. Mattie Fairbanks; vice oracle, Mrs. Libbie Aultfather; past oracle, Mrs. Lania Dawes; chancellor, Mrs. Carrie Wright; recorder, Mrs. Tracy Young; receiver, Mrs. Ida Wyatt; marshal, Mrs. Mabel Boyd; assistant marshal, Mrs. Lillian Peterson; inner sentinel, Mrs. Mary Horrobin; outer sentinel, Mrs. Ella Mayland; managers, Mrs. Jessie Ward, Mrs. Ellen Brown and Mrs. Maud Cutter.

Austin Tent, No. 16, Knights of the Maccabees, received its charter May 23, 1893. The first officers were: Commander, E. C. Kinney; record keeper, G. M. Merriman; finance keeper, P. Goodwin. The present officers are: Commander, A. E. Hilker; record and finance keeper, J. W. Gebhart.

Austin Council 53, Modern Samaritans, was organized several years ago and the present officers are: Good Samaritan, F. H. Mayer; past, W. J. Bell; vice, Sallie E. Hill; high priestess, Mrs. R. Peterson; financial scribe, Peter Capretz; treasurer, John Urbatch; C. M., Carl Johnson; J. M., Roy Pace; centurian, Mrs. Carl Johnson; watchman, John Jensen; medical examiner, Dr. C. F. Lewis.

Austin Homestead, No. 443, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, has some 260 members. The officers are: Honorable foreman, L. H. Grau; master of ceremonies, Carrie Wright; correspondent, A. L. Lickteig; master of accounts, Mattie Fairbanks; chaplain, Mary Newcomb.

SCANDINAVIAN AND TEUTONIC LODGES.

The Scandinavian and Teutonic element in Austin is represented by three societies: Als Lodge, No. 111, Danish Brotherhood; Hamar Lodge, No. 84, Sons of Norway, and the Harmonia Germania Society.

INDUSTRIAL.

The Carpenters' Union in Austin has been in existence for some time, and is of much mutual benefit to its members.

DRIVING ASSOCIATION.

The Austin Driving Association was organized February 26, 1909. The first officers were: Geo. Sutton, president; H. W. Hurlbut, treasurer, and A. C. Page, secretary. Shortly after its organization, the president, Mr. Sutton, was taken sick and went to a sanitarium for treatment. E. D. Feeny was elected vice president and acted as executive officer during that year's race meet. The association has given two very successful summer

race meetings during the month of June, 1909 and 1910. They are planning their race meet for the current season for July 3, 4 and 5. The present officers are as follows: O. J. Simmons, president; M. F. Leffingwell, vice president; H. W. Hurlbut, treasurer; A. C. Page, secretary.

CHAPTER XXI.

MODERN AUSTIN.

Advantages of the City Written by Rev. C. D. Belden—Religious Activities by Robert L. Moore—Austin Clubs by Miss Jennie G. Keith—St. Olav Hospital and Training School—Austin Schools by Prof. George A. Franklin—Austin Hotels.

Austin, the Pearl City of southern Minnesota and the county seat of Mower county, is located in one of the most attractive and fertile portions of the great Northwest. It has a population of 6,960, according to the United States 1910 census, and it is large enough to enjoy all the advantages and improvements found in much larger centers. Mower county has steadily increased in population during all the migrations and changes of the past decades, as each succeeding census has shown. Today we have 22,640 within our county borders. From the early pioneer days this city has been on the great highway of travel and has attracted the best class of residents by her pre-eminent advantages.

Sixty years ago there were two streams of travel coming into this section. One was from the east by way of Chatfield, where a land office had been established, and the other came in from the southeast following up the banks of the Cedar river and continuing on in the old territorial road to St. Paul. Austin was on this latter route. In the early settlement of Mower county the county seat was established on the east end at Frankford, but the Cedar valley soon gathered a larger immigration and the county seat was changed to Austin. The old stage route from Dubuque to St. Paul passed through Austin and the outer world soon discovered that this was a veritable garden spot. Here were timber, the purest of water, the brightest of sunshine, the healthiest of climate, the most fertile of soil. The Cedar river flowing through the city furnished abundant water power for saw mill and grist mill and Austin soon came into its deserved prominence.

The pioneer problems of 1854 were very different from what are known today. Then the railroads were slow in extending west and they waited until the settlers had pushed ahead and had made improvements and established centers. Today the railroads reach out hundreds of miles into uninhabited regions and carry the first settlers to their locations and furnish them with transportation and abundant communication with the outside world. It was not so with the pioneers of this locality who waited for years for the railroad while they hauled their grain a hundred miles to the Father of Waters. In 1859 there was not a mile of railroad in Minnesota and the nearest railroad point was Dubuque. But shut in as were the pioneers so largely, they were thrown together in an intimacy and equality which the social sets of the later years never know of. Thrown upon their own resources and with everything new and unplanned, they were really the foundation builders and we today enjoy a substantial superstructure. The first settlers in this locality were largely of sturdy native American stock with a valuable addition of thrifty emigrants from northern Europe. They brought high ideals in education, morals and home life and their influence is a positive factor for good today.

The city of Austin is located on both sides of the Cedar river. It is surrounded by a finely improved and productive prairie country in all directions. From the days of Austin Nichols, who came here in 1853 and from whom the city was named, and of Chauncey Leverich, who bought out his claim in 1854, there has been a healthy, persistent growth. Its location, about a hundred miles from Minneapolis, La Crosse and other large shipping points, gives it a territory largely its own. It is an industrial and railroad center of prominence. The first railroad to enter here was in 1867 and today we have five lines of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road coming here, and we are on the direct line of the Great Western between Minneapolis and Omaha. Our shipping facilities are superior. The division point of the Milwaukee road and one of its car shops are here and they have an Austin payroll at present of \$55,000 each month.

Austin is pre-eminently a city of homes. A larger proportion of the residents own their own in most cases. The residences are the pride and joy of the city, many of them built with the latest improvements and with attractive architectural ideas. The Austin Civic Improvement League is helpful in keeping the general appearance of the city neat and attractive. Two very pretty parks give the people ample chance for convenient outing. Lafayette park lies at the foot of Main street where the Cedar is bridged. Central park is adjacent to the city water plant on Water street.

The schools of Austin are of the highest efficiency. The public schools are provided with the large central high school building and also five up-to-date grade ward schoolhouses. The year of 1910-1911 required a total force of thirty-eight teachers, with special work, domestic science, manual training, music, normal department, drawing and gymnastics. The graduating class of 1911 consists of thirty-one members. In addition the St. Augustine's parish has established the Columbus parochial school with eight departments, all of them in grade work. The Southern Minnesota Normal College, founded in 1897, is located here and has a yearly enrollment of over 1,000 pupils from all the north-western states. In this connection we mention the splendid library facilities of the city. In addition to the fine school and private libraries we have a public library, the building for which was provided by Andrew Carnegie. This building was completed in April, 1904. There are about 7,000 volumes at present. The nucleus of this library was a gift of 3,500 volumes from the Austin Floral Club, which was organized in March, 1869, to promote taste and skill in horticulture and to establish a circulating library. Austin is a city of churches. There are eleven fine church buildings and the clergymen rank high in preaching ability and in personal worth and influence. Fifteen of the principal denominations are well represented in the city.

Austin is a prominent business city and commercial center. Its wholesale and retail trade covers twenty-two blocks of our streets. Every line of commercial trade is represented. Its handsome business blocks fronting upon its brick paved streets and its enduring cement sidewalks are a mark of enterprise and thrift that attract all visitors. In the way of manufactures we excel. Roller mills, tow mills, plow and harrow works, cement tile factories, immense Farmers' Brick and Tile plant, weed extirminator plant, the second packing house in size in Minnesota. Austin greenhouses, marble and granite works, steel culvert factory, machine shops, foundries, carriage building are among our prominent industries. We have two telephone systems connecting with all the surrounding country and bringing us in touch also with the large centers. A city hospital shows advanced service for the afflicted.

Although Austin is essentially a home town, there is fine hotel service here for the traveling public and the four leading hotels, the Fox, the Grand, the Elk and the Railway, make this city an attractive stopping place sought by all who can make it convenient. In connection with the business interests we mention the three national banks, whose total deposits in March, 1911, were \$3,072,120.31, and a total capital and surplus of \$625,729.71. The Austin Commercial Club, the successor of the Board of

Trade, organized in 1874 and reorganized in December, 1903, is an active body looking after the development and growth of the city.

One of the commanding buildings of the city is the fine county courthouse, occupying a whole square on Main street. It was occupied in March, 1884, and is the just pride of the county. A new federal building for the postoffice and other government officials was commenced in the fall of 1910 and will be completed at the close of 1911. It is 50x65 feet and will cost \$50,000. Plans are also accepted for a new city hall to cost \$40,000.

Austin feels proud of its military company. Back in the war of '61-'65 this community sent its full quota to the front and the soldierly spirit has never waned. Company G, Second Minnesota National Guard, was organized by Capt. James S. Anderson in September, 1882. An appropriation from the state legislature in April, 1911, gives the company \$10,000 for an armory here and the city will add to this to make a suitable permanent drill hall for them.

Austin has one of the most successful municipal water, electric light and power plants in the United States. Its low rate for electric power has made it famous. The city owns and controls its own plant. Previous to about 1885, Austin's water supply was wholly from private wells and its fire protection was from cisterns. With the growth of population the demand was for modern water supply. A 132-foot well was put down and Smedley & Co., of Dubuque, put in the first pumps, two of them, each with a million-gallon daily capacity. John M. Greenman was the first superintendent. From this beginning other and deeper wells were sunk later as the demand increased and in 1910 a more ample supply of water was obtained by the purchase of the famous Sargent's springs east of the city with a flowage of 1,300,000 gallons of purest water daily. This water was piped into the city in the summer of 1911. It comes wholly by gravity to the reservoir at the power plant. The water mains which at first covered only our principal business section now run to all parts of the residence portion.

The city municipal electric and power plant was established in 1900, when the city bought out a private concern for the sum of \$16,000. The Pierce Brothers put in the original plant in April, 1889. This furnished only the stores at first with light, but later the city made contracts for street lighting and the use of electric lighting was extended to residences. The city rebuilt the plant when it bought it in 1900 and in 1903 the entire management was placed in the hands of a board of water, electric, gas and power commission. The plant has been steadily developed until it had in May, 1911, a 750-horsepower dynamo sys-

tem, supplying lights to 940 different consumers, power to fifty users and light for 121 arc street lights, besides seventy-five smaller street lamps. It is a fact that the Austin municipal plant furnishes cheaper power and light to consumers than any other successful electric plant in this country. The present members of the water and electric board are: John L. Gulden, president; Mayor A. S. Campbell, J. D. Sheedy, Al. M. Smith and C. A. Pooler; superintendent, William Todd. Austin has an efficient fire department and excellent fire protection.

The streets of Austin are worthy of mention. There are many miles of cement sidewalks with many boulevards, which give a substantial appearance. In the summer of 1906 the main business portion of the city along Main street and adjacent blocks was paved with vitreous brick and in the following summer ten blocks were paved from Main street to the Milwaukee station, making it possible to reach all the business portions by it. This makes Austin one of the best paved cities of its size in the Northwest.

The city has kept pace with its growing population and the improvements of the day, and the resident here finds every convenience afforded much larger cities. The Austin Gas Company is a private corporation, whose service adds to the comforts of the home, and with annual Chautauqua in summer and lecture and concert courses in the winter, with churches and schools and library of the highest merit, with ample water supply and extensive sewerage, with the best of electric light and power and in the midst of a prosperous farming community, located near the height of land in southern Minnesota and with a climate unexcelled for its many healthful conditions, Austin knows the reason why during business depression and prosperity she has maintained a steady and permanent growth.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Austin has excellent fire protection and a well-equipped fire department. Hose Company No. 1 has its house at the corner of Chatham and Maple street and Hose Company No. 2 has its house at the foot of Bridge street. There are also companies at the Hormel plant and at the Milwaukee yards. Plans are under way for the building of a combination city hall fire house and armory at the corner of Chatham and Maple streets. The state has appropriated \$10,000 for the building of an armory, and plans have been drawn for a combination building, to be erected at a cost of some \$42,000.

The fire department, which is a volunteer one, is organized as follows: Fire warden, Nels P. Jensen; hose cart No. 1, foreman, Frank E. J. Christie; assistant, J. J. Rugg; hydrantmen,

Leonard Hall and Archie Moreland; pipemen, George Fitzthum and James Anker; steward and treasurer, Edward H. Elward; secretary, Louis Duelos. Hose Comany No. 2: Foreman, M. J. Mayer; assistant foreman, George Umhoefer; hydrantmen, C. W. McNally and J. Mayer, Jr.; nozzlemen, Frank Hummel, Alvin Setterloff, D. J. Sheehan; secretary, J. H. Mayer; treasurer, Frank Mayer; steward, J. Mayer, Jr.

The Austin Volunteer Hook, Ladder and Bucket Company was organized March 11, 1870. The first officers elected were: President, W. I. Brown; foreman, Capt. H. J. Gilham; first assistant, J. D. Jennings; second assistant, H. L. Burgess; secretary, A. M. Hutchinson; treasurer, George H. Litchfield. On April 27 No. 2 of the east side was organized. In September, 1895, the city hired its first team and driver, Oscar Hill securing the position. Among those who in the past have assisted in fire department affairs in some official capacity may be mentioned: A. J. Phelps, H. B. Hall, D. B. Smith, Tom Riley, John Walsh, C. A. Pooler, C. Biesecker, Tom Dugan, Jesse Makepiece (the first chief of the Austin fire department), E. J. Ames, Henry Trenary, John Gulden, Edward Elwood, Tom Mann, Mile Mhyre, Nels Jensen, Frank Reynolds and many others.

OAKWOOD CEMETERY.

Austin was a village of 400 people before a move was made to have a place to lay its departed. The dead were laid away in the vacant lots of the platted city. The body of Chauncey Leverich, who was murdered, was buried near where the Swen Anderson building stands on Chatham street. On the banks of the Cedar near the South Bridge the bones of Don and Jack Fleming molded. They came here from New England for their health, as they were both suffering with consumption. It was not until 1862 that a move was made to secure a cemetery. A few of the ladies of the city got talking about the needs of the city and a meeting was called February 1, 1862, at the home of J. L. Davidson for the purpose of organizing a society for the purchase of suitable lands for a burial ground. At that first meeting Mrs. J. L. Davidson was elected president and Mrs. Ormanzo Allen secretary.

The name adopted for the society was "The Mite Society and Cemetery Association" and the meetings were to be held every two weeks at the homes of the members in alphabetical order. Each member was to pay ten cents at each meeting. The attendance at these meetings was between eighty and 100, for there was little doing in the pioneer village in those days.

The first regular meeting was held at the home of Mrs. J. L. Clark. Here it was voted to have the men buy the land and the

Mite society promised to build the fence. A subscription paper was passed among the business men and twenty agreed to take lots at \$5 each. On March 15, 1862, the men met and organized the cemetery association. Solomon Snow was chairman of the meeting and Ormanzo Allen secretary. The following trustees were elected: For one year, L. N. Griffith and Ormanzo Allen; for two years, John S. Lacy and Oliver Somers; for three years, Solomon Snow. A committee had been sent out to secure land and on the suggestion of the Mite society looked over the Baudler farm. The committee found the land suitable evidently, for it purchased five acres at a cost of \$100. D. B. Johnson surveyed the land, laying it off in lots twenty feet square, and Squire Griffith made a map. The \$100 was raised by twenty men, each of whom bought a lot at the cost of \$5.

The story of the cleaning up of the grounds by the ladies, assisted by the men, is told elsewhere by Mrs. L. A. Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood says that the first body buried in the cemetery was that of Katie, the eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Clark. The little girl died of diphtheria and Mrs. Sherwood assisted in the care of the little girl. That was the first case of diphtheria that had appeared in the little village of Austin. Having bought the land and laid it out as a place to bury the dead, the cemetery seems to have received but little attention, each lot owner being supposed to care for his own lot. In 1895 the Oakwood Cemetery Association bought 160 acres of land of the Adler farm adjoining the cemetery. They sold about thirty acres lying east of the river to D. B. Smith. D. H. Stimson was one of the prime movers in this purchase. Anton Friedrich was elected superintendent of the cemetery and has been in charge from that day to this. The cemetery was graded, the unsightly grave mounds all being leveled, flower gardens were laid out and each year saw the place still further beautified. Now it is one of the most beautiful resting places for the dead in the state. On March 7, 1904, the trustees were authorized to erect a chapel and vault, not to exceed the sum of \$5,000, and this beautiful building was dedicated in the fall of the same year. William Baudler had opened up a private cemetery on the northern line of his farm adjacent to the Oakwood cemetery and the lot owners of this cemetery wanted those lots taken in as a part of beautiful Oakwood. This petition was presented by Mrs. Hiram Smith at a meeting held November 12, 1904. She stated that \$430 had been subscribed and guaranteed that \$70 more would be raised, making the amount \$500 for the purchase of the unsold lots in the Baudler cemetery. On December 3, 1904, a meeting of the cemetery association was held to consider the proposition. At that meeting the Baudler cemetery lot owners were ready to pay \$500

to the Oakwood cemetery to secure possession of the Baudler lots so that the two cemeteries might be united. The board of trustees offered to take over the Baudler cemetery, lots, alleys, streets, etc., on the payment of \$2,000. N. F. Banfield said he would be responsible for the amount and the proposition was accepted. Soon after the old fence was torn down, both cemeteries were made one, the Baudler cemetery being graded and beautified to conform with Oakwood. On August 23, 1905, the cemetery association purchased four rods of land adjoining the old Baudler cemetery on the east, paying for it \$75. On March 2, 1906, McIntyre Post G. A. R. exchanged their old lot for a lot in the center of Section 3 of the new cemetery and the bodies of the dead heroes were removed to their new sleeping place. On this lot a beautiful soldiers' monument was erected and dedicated in 1907.

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES.

(By Robert L. Moore.)

While Austin is on seven railroad divisions, it is also on fifteen divisions of the King's highway, all having one grand terminal point. These are the divisions: Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, Congregational, Presbyterian, Baptist, Christian, Jewish, Christian Scientist, Seventh Day Adventist, German Evangelical, Universalist, Children of the Dawn and Christadelphian. Eleven of these denominations have church buildings, all practically free from debt.

The many church spires like indices pointing heavenward suggest to the stranger that Austin is a city of churches. Approaching the city from any direction the first object to greet the eye is the cross of Christ in the skyline. The rays of the rising sun first rest upon it and the last dying rays of day are reflected by it. Austin is a religious city, but it is not a bigoted one. Sec-tarianism that has rent other communities has never been known here. No man disputes with another which is the direct route to heaven. Religious liberty is here enjoyed to the fullest. Aside from the distinctly church organizations, the club and social organizations never consider church affiliation as a qualification for membership.

All the churches are liberally supported and well attended. The buildings are as a rule superior to church buildings in cities of the size of Austin.

First Congregational Church.—Members of this denomination had their first meetings in Austin in what was known as the "Headquarters," which stood on the corner where the Austin National Bank now stands, gathered there together by their first pastor, Rev. Stephen Cook, on July 6, 1857. There were fifteen

charter members, as follows: J. L. Davidson, Mrs. H. A. Davidson, Rev. Stephen Cook, Mrs. Jennett Cook, J. N. Cook, Mrs. L. A. Cook, J. N. Wheat, J. S. Decker, Mrs. M. A. Decker, Obadiah Smith, Mrs. M. A. Smith, Mrs. Amanda Adams, J. Baker, Miss E. Bennett. Rev. Cook served as pastor of the church for three years, resigning in May, 1860. His successor was Rev. Nelson Cook, who held the pastorate from May 1, 1860, to October, 1860. He was, in turn, followed by Rev. Stephen Cook, who held services from October, 1860, until May, 1861. Next was Rev. C. C. Humphrey, May, 1861, until May, 1863. Following the last named Rev. W. S. Clark preached from May, 1863, to November, 1863.

In March, 1864, Rev. W. J. Smith was called to Austin, during which year the Baptist church was completed, and an invitation was extended to the Congregationalists to worship there. The invitation was accepted and for two years both sects worshipped there. In November, 1864, Rev. Smith resigned the pastorate and was succeeded in December by Rev. Alfred Morse, who continued until December, 1868. During his stay here or in the year 1866 the next place of worship was the "Brick School House" on the site where the Carnegie Library now stands. In October, 1868, the first building of this denomination was dedicated, it being built on the same site as the present building, the lot having been donated by J. L. Davidson some years before. Soon after its dedication Rev. Morse tendered his resignation and he and his beloved wife left for other fields of duty. His successor was Rev. E. M. Williams, December, 1868, until December, 1870. Other ministers in close proximity were: Rev. J. T. Graves, from January, 1871, to January 1873, and Rev. Henry Ketcham, from June, 1873, to September, 1874. Rev. C. E. Wright commenced his labors with the church in December, 1874. He was a man of great personality and influence and his long stay of twenty-four years were fruitful ones to the church. Not only by the spiritual help were the people of this church benefited, but also by a new building, which was erected in 1892 and dedicated February 26, 1893. While the new edifice was being erected Sunday school services were held in the courtroom of the Courthouse and devotional meetings in the Grand Army hall. The dedicatory hymn sung on the occasion was one of rare merit, being the same as was sung at the dedication of the old building twenty-seven years before and composed by Mrs. Samuel Morris, wife of the former pastor. When the resignation of Mr. Wright was tendered, November, 1898, it was met with a feeling of deep regret, for those who had known him so long and to whom he had administered in their sorrow and cares were wont to say that in the loss of him the church had lost one of its most

valuable assets. The other ministers after him were Rev. E. T. Wheeler, 1898 to 1902, and Rev. Arthur Dascumb, 1902 to 1904.

The present pastor, Rev. F. E. Knopf, came to the church in September, 1905. He was born of German parents at Columbus, Ohio, 1858. But upon the death of his parents while he was yet seven years of age, he was brought up on a farm twenty-eight miles from Columbus, where in the district school he received his common school education. His desire to rise in the world, however, did not keep him on a farm, for later he entered the University of Wooster, Presbyterian College, where after a few years he completed the prescribed courses. After leaving the university he was elected superintendent of schools at Columbus Grove. Later he held the position of professor of Latin and Greek at the Tri-State Normal college, remaining with that institution for four years. In 1889 he was ordained minister and labored with the Congregational church at Elkhart, Ind. Since then he has held pulpits at Michigan City, Ind., Sabetha, Kans., and Cheyenne, Wyo., from which last named place he came to Austin. During his pastorate up to date one hundred members have been added to the church. In 1907 occurred the fiftieth anniversary of the church and many of the former pastors were present. The church has two of its members in missionary work, Arthur McBride, missionary teacher, stationed at Bombay, India, and Olive Vaughan at Hadfin, Turkey. The societies are few in number, being the Ladies' Aid, president, Mrs. E. H. Smith; vice-president, Mrs. Dr. M. J. Hardy; secretary, Mrs. F. I. Crane; treasurer, Mrs. Eunice Rice. The Sunday school is a very large one and is lead by Ransome Thompson as superintendent. The Y. P. S. C. E. was organized during Rev. Wright's pastorate and since then has grown to a very prominent organization. It first met at the home of Harlan Page, with Fanny Eastman as president. The present officers are: President, Helen Banfield; vice-president, Leonard Decker; secretary, Josephine Catherwood; corresponding secretary, Alice Hayse; treasurer, Neil Cooke; pianist, Thekla Knopf. The Woman's Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. E. M. Morse, wife of the former pastor, who was president of the state missionary board, first president of the society here and also founder of the Floral Club of Austin. The present officers include Mrs. C. H. Decker as president; Mrs. H. A. Avery, vice-president; Mrs. John Rutherford, secretary, and Mrs. Arthur Cole, treasurer. The Boys' Junior Endeavor has at the head Harry Emery as superintendent. The church officers are: Deacons, O. W. Shaw, F. P. McBride, H. A. Avery, C. L. West, W. O. Page, Jacob S. Decker. The latter and Mrs. J. S. Decker and Mrs. Obadiah Smith were original charter members of the church and are yet active members. The trustees of the

church include Mr. C. F. Cook, Dr. A. M. Lewis, Mr. A. L. Eberhart, A. C. Page, J. E. Crippen, L. A. Sherman and H. L. Banfield. The two latter are clerk and treasurer, respectively.

St. Olaf Lutheran Church. The Lutheran church of Austin was organized by Rev. C. L. Clausen, October 28, 1867. The same pastor had preached the first sermon of this denomination at Austin about two years previous to that time. The first services were held at the home of Nels Johnson, with the following persons as charter members: Syver Olson and family, Peter Knudson and family, Iver Nelson and family, Carl M. Bolnner, Nels Johnson and family, John Halverson, Jacob Johnson, Ole Jacobson, Ole Mickleson and family, F. B. Frost and family, Nels Olson and family. On November 14, 1867, the second meeting was held at the home of Seymore Johnson, at which time by-laws were adopted and Carl M. Bolnner was elected secretary of the church. During the illness of Rev. Clausen in 1869 the devotional meetings were held in the courtroom of the Courthouse. On October 5, 1870, a meeting was called together at the office of John Irgens. This was for the purpose of deciding on the name and the incorporation of the church and upon the advisability of purchasing the old Methodist Episcopal church. The name selected was the St. Olaf Evangelical Lutheran church of Austin. The old Methodist church was purchased and trustees chosen: J. S. Irgens, Carl M. Bolnner, O. J. Johnson, O. H. Johnson, the two former being treasurer and secretary, respectively. On May 25, 1870, Rev. Ostby commenced his labors with the church and all continued well during his pastorate. Resigning in November, 1878, he was succeeded by Rev. Clausen, who continued serving with Svend Strand as assistant (appointed 1879) until January, 1885, at which time he tendered his resignation. Rev. Ostby was recalled in May, 1885, owing to the severe illness of Rev. Clausen, and remained with the church until the arrival of Rev. O. Glasoe, December, 1889, who held the pastorate until September, 1891. Next to succeed him was the Rev. E. T. Rogne, who came in March, 1892. During his labors with the church the congregation increased so that it was deemed necessary to erect a new building. Subscriptions being secured the new (present) building, costing \$16,000, was commenced in the early part of 1895 and dedicated in 1896 by Rt. Rev. G. Hoyne. On the occasion all the former pastors were present, excepting Rev. Clausen, who had previously passed to his eternal reward. Rev. Rogne resigned in the fall of 1898 and was succeeded by Rev. J. C. Roseland, who entered upon his duties in February, 1899, and served eight years until the fall of 1907. During Rev. Roseland's work with the church the Hayfield church services, which had been in charge of the former pastors, was discontinued. He introduced the Eng-

lish language into the services of this church, which resulted in holding six English conducted services and two of Scandinavian for the month. Rev. Roseland went from Austin to Chicago and a call having been issued to Rev. J. A. E. Naess, the present pastor, he came in December, 1907. Mr. Naess is a young man of about thirty-nine years of age, alert and ready to fulfill the needs of his parish. Born on a farm in Iowa county, Wisconsin, he learned early the labors of life. He received his grammar school education in the town of Boscobel, Wis., from which place he graduated and entered the St. Olaf college at Northfield, Minn. Upon the completion of prescribed courses at that institution in 1895, he affiliated himself with the United Church seminary of Minneapolis. On June 12, 1898, he was ordained a minister and shortly afterward went back to Boscobel and served the parish there for four years. Resigning that position, he next went to Albert Lea, Minn., from whence he removed to Austin. In the course of construction now is an addition to the church which when completed will nearly double the seating capacity of the church, and aside from that is to be the installation of a pipe organ which will cost \$2,000. Throughout the history of this denomination the growth has been of a steady nature and progress marks the path of years gone by. At this time the membership shows the enrollment of 750 souls. The church has no parsonage, the present minister having purchased his own home. The societies of the church are as follows: Ladies Aid, president, Mrs. C. I. Johnson; vice-president, Mrs. W. R. Earle; secretary, Mrs. Carl Johnson; treasurer, Mrs. W. E. Brown. Young People's League, president, Harry Rassmussen; vice-president, Erwin Johnson; secretary, Allen Peterson; treasurer, Minnie Johnson. Men's Society Social and Literary, president, George E. Anderson; vice-president, Peter Hanson; secretary, Carl Johnson. The Sunday school has an attendance of 190 and the superintendent is W. M. Peterson.

Seven Day Adventist. The organization of this sect was began in Austin, September 22, 1889, with Elder A. Kinsman as presiding officer and eleven members. Mrs. Hattie E. Varco was elected clerk and their first meetings were held at the home of A. N. Kinsman. During the year 1890, on September 14, a subscription was taken with which to erect a place of worship. The church became an organization in October of that year and A. N. Kinsman, M. E. Varco and H. Hanson were elected trustees. It then became a part of the Northern Union Conference. During the summer of 1891 a church was built and on December 20 of that year it was dedicated by Elder A. J. Breed, president of the conference. Unlike other churches, this one instead of supporting a resident pastor bends every effort and contributes to

the maintenance of such in the foreign fields. Among the elders presiding since the organization in Austin are as follows: A. N. Kinsman, 1889 until 1896; Elder H. Hanson, January 10, 1896, until January 18, 1899; Elder Rien, March, 1899, until March, 1900; Elder A. N. Kinsman, 1900 until 1901; J. Jacobson was elected January, 1901, and continued as leader until January 13, 1907. Succeeding him was Mr. A. N. Kinsman, who still continues to serve. The present officers are: Mrs. A. Hobson, clerk; Charles Rosenthal, deacon and treasurer; Mrs. Hattie Varco, secretary of mission work. The church has fifty souls.

Christ Church, Protestant Episcopal. The first services of this church can be said to have had their beginning in the year 1862, at which time Bishop Whipple made Austin a stopping place in which to hold services. For three years or until 1865 occasional services were held by this good bishop, during which time the children of E. W. Ford and James L. Clark were baptized by him. Other occasional preachers during that period were Rev. Messrs. Woodard, Burleson and Johnson. However, in October, 1865, the Rev. E. Steele Peake, a pioneer missionary, was stationed at Austin and gathered around him a flock of worshippers to whom he preached the gospel in a portion of the Baptist church. During the year 1886 Christ's church parish was organized as a branch of the diocese of Minnesota, Rev. Peake as rector electing the vestry, J. M. Vandergrift and James Clark as warders, with I. M. Lewis, Andrew Grinnel, Samuel Dodge, D. L. Merrell, D. P. Bosworth and S. F. Austin as members. Rev. Peake remained until June 24, 1866, at which time he went to California. Succeeding him, however, on January 30, 1867, was Rev. L. W. Gibson, who was appointed to the Austin parish by Bishop Whipple. Some time in March of that same year land was purchased for church property and during the following May a church 22x26 was erected at a cost of \$800. In November, 1867, the southern convocation met at Austin and the cornerstone was laid by Bishop Whipple. The first services were held in the new church on Thanksgiving day, 1868. In 1869 Rev. Gibson resigned and his successor the following year was Rev. Thomas E. Dickey, who retained the position until February, 1872. During the month of April, that year, Rev. Jerome I. Townsend became the resident pastor and during his rectorship the church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Henry Benjamin Whipple, D. D. Resigning his position on November 30, 1875, Rev. Townsend was succeeded by Robert Reed Goudy, who continued the pastorate for one year, resigning June, 1877. The next rector was Rev. John Anketell, coming to Austin April, 1878, and resigning his post February, 1880. The church was then without a rector, holding occasional services until the coming of Rev. C. H. Beaubien, Jr., in February, 1882, who

remained with the parish until 1883. After that time and up until the year 1886 the church was again without a pastor, and held occasional services until the coming of the Rev. Peabody in September of that year. Other rectors who followed in succession were: Rev. Edwin Johnson, July, 1888, until October, 1889; Rev. Wellington McVetter, January, 1890, until January, 1892; Rev. Charles Pullen, June, 1892, until August, 1896; Rev. J. S. W. Somerville, November, 1896, until November, 1904; Rev. J. S. Budlong, April, 1905, until September, 1909. During the rectorship of the last named the church building was remodeled and rectory enlarged. In November, 1909, Rev. C. W. Holmes was appointed to the Austin parish. He was born at Seneca, Kans., 1867, of English parentage. Later, at the age of twelve, he removed to Racine, Wis., where he attended the College Grammar school. At the age of twenty he graduated from that institution and went out into commercial work. In the year 1906 he entered the Seabury Theological school at Faribault and was ordained deacon in 1907 and priest, December, 1908. Mr. Holmes is a man much liked by his congregation, one who is firm in his purpose of advancing the cause to which he is now engaged, and a man greatly interested in the welfare of the community. Under his rectorship the church has greatly increased in membership, having now 200 communicants. The present officers are: Senior warden, C. F. Lewis; junior warden, F. L. Williams; E. S. Selby, secretary; J. W. Hare, treasurer. The societies of the church are: Woman's Guild, Mrs. J. W. Hare, president; Mrs. Cassius Terry, vice-president; Mrs. T. L. Williams, secretary; Mrs. W. L. Van Camp, treasurer. Woman's Auxiliary, Mrs. Arnold Johnson, president; Mrs. C. W. Holmes, vice-president; Mrs. F. L. Williams, secretary and treasurer. St. Agnes Guild, president, Edna Clegget; vice-president, Lulu Meyers; secretary and treasurer, Dorine Abrahams. Junior Auxiliary, Mrs. C. W. Holmes, directorist; president, Edna Eastman; secretary, Dorris Gregson; treasurer, Dorothy Eastman. Rev. Holmes is superintendent of the Sunday school and has for officers: Secretary, Inez Eastman; treasurer, Lulu Meyers.

Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church, U. A. C. In September, 1907, Rev. C. A. Affeldt, after locating four German Lutheran families northwest of Austin and, being urged to look after spiritual welfare of German Lutheran students attending the Southern Minnesota Normal college and such of his Waltham charge as lived in Austin permanently and temporarily, began to conduct services in the Adventist's church building, corner College and Kenwood avenue. These services being appreciated by many, new families arriving and an organization being thought expedient, a meeting was held at the home of Julius Maas, 711 Park avenue,

and a previously drawn-up constitution was adopted. This was September 18, 1908, at 10 p. m. Present were Julius Maas, Jacob Hartje, Adolf Ott, Gustav Klingfuss, H. Klingfuss, Franz Jungblut, Adolf Gruenwald, August Kranz, L. Kalinsky, Willie Martin, J. W. Gruenwaldt. At present services are conducted every two weeks at the Adventist's church. The present membership is twelve voting members, fifty-one souls and thirty-one communicants. Preliminary measures have been taken towards establishing its own pastorate with the aid of the missionary board of the Minnesota and Dakota district of the Missouri Synod. The officers are: C. A. Affeldt, Waltham, Minn., pastor; Franz Jungblut, Rose Creek, Minn., and Ide Loudon, Austin, Minn., elders.

The First Baptist Church. The First Baptist church of Austin has a worthy history. It was organized in "Old Headquarters," January 31, 1858. Rev. Edward F. Gurney, a graduate of Granville college and of Rochester Theological seminary, was the first pastor. There were nine constituent members. The church was formally recognized by a council June 20, 1858. He labored without fixed salary for the first two years and then received \$400 a year. He preached in surrounding centers also. In the summer of 1861 a subscription of several hundred dollars was gathered for a meeting house of their own and the present site of the church property was purchased. Elder Gurney resigned in November, 1861, on account of failing health. Rev. Hervey I. Parker, the second pastor, was with the church from February, 1862, until November, 1872, when he went to California. The church building project was revived by him and in January, 1863, a building committee took hold of the work. The building, 28x40, was occupied for the first time in January, 1874, and was formally dedicated June 14, 1864. The Congregationalists occupied this house for a while on alternate Sundays. The church prospered under Elder Parker and there were 155 additions. Rev. C. T. Emerson was a faithful pastor for one year from October, 1873. Rev. C. D. Belden commenced an eight years' pastorate in November, 1874, resigning in 1882 to take charge of the county public school work. There were 119 additions under him and the church was very active in work in the surrounding country. Rev. W. E. Stanley became pastor in October, 1882, remaining until January, 1891. At the twenty-fifth anniversary of the church held in 1883 it was reported that the church had received a total membership of 340, of whom 135 at that time remained. Rev. C. T. Hallowell became pastor in May, 1891, remaining two years. During his pastorate the matter of a new church edifice was agitated and the work was planned. The foundation of the present beautiful house of worship, 67x75 and costing over \$17,000, was laid in the fall of 1893. Rev. F. C. Whitney commenced his pastorate September 1, 1893.

remaining until October, 1900, when he went to Rochester. The new church was dedicated February 26, 1895, and four months later the fine chapel built by the Oakland branch of the church was dedicated. There was a total of 282 additions during Rev. Whitney's pastorate. Rev. Frank L. Anderson became pastor in December, 1900, and gave the church four years of splendid service, resigning in February, 1905. Rev. R. E. Sayles was pastor from May, 1905, to October, 1907. A large accession of members came under him from the W. A. Sunday tabernacle meetings. Rev. H. B. Hazen became pastor in November, 1907, resigning March 1, 1909. The semi-centennial of the church was held January 31, 1908. A total membership for the fifty years was reported as 1,033, with a present membership of 420. Average pastorate over five and a half years. Rev. J. H. Carstens was pastor from May 1, 1909, until November 15, 1910. The present pastor, Rev. W. L. Riley, of Detroit, Mich., took up his work as pastor April 1, 1911. The First Baptist Church of Austin has a worthy record and has been one of the strong factors for righteousness in this whole community.

St. Augustine's Church. In the year 1858 Rev. Father Pendergast, of Winona, came to Austin to conduct services in this vicinity. They were held at the residence of Aloysius Brown, in what is now the German hotel. After two years of occasional services by Father Pendergast, he was followed by Father George Keller, of Faribault. This reverend gentleman held services once every two months up until the fall of 1866. As a result of his laborious work in this vicinity, to Father Keller is due the honor of establishing and putting on a firm basis the first congregation of St. Augustine's parish. Soon after the leave of this gentleman he was succeeded in 1866 by Father McDermot, the first resident priest, who remained and worked with his parish until 1869. During this time money for the erection of a church was solicited and three gentlemen of Austin, Messrs. Lewis, Yates and Fake (non-Catholics), generously donated a lot, comprising a whole city block. Then came Father C. Genis, a French clergyman, who labored incessantly and with profit for the spiritual necessities of his little parish. He remained until the year 1874 and was succeeded by Rev. Father Pavlin, who remained but one year. Father Arthur Hurley was next appointed priest of the Austin parish. He carried on his good work until the year 1882 and then went to Rosemound, near St. Paul. Father Genis returned during that year and immediately set to work building the present parsonage, but was unable to finish it. Following closely after the leave of the last named priest was the late Daniel O'Sullivan, to whom we are indebted for the present structure. He was a much beloved priest and to him may be attributed many of the good works

accomplished in this vicinity. His death occurred in June, 1896, and was a great loss to the parish. In the year 1895, or the last year of Father O'Sullivan's pastorate, Rev. Father E. H. Devlin, the present pastor, came as a resident priest of Austin. He is of Irish descent and was born on a farm in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, where he worked until the age of thirty years. He then went to St. Thomas College, where he completed the prescribed courses of that college. Upon graduating from St. Thomas he went to Rome and remained there more than three years. Upon his return he held pastorate in New Richland five months and was then transferred to Austin. Father Devlin may be characterized as a man of great executive ability, educated in many branches, and a man firm in his purpose of elevating the cause of humanity. During his pastorate the St. Augustine church, started by Father O'Sullivan, was dedicated on Thanksgiving day, November 26, 1896. This is a handsome red pressed brick building with trimmings of red sandstone to match the substantial looking foundation. It has a frontage of seventy-seven feet and a depth of 169 feet. Two towers stand out slightly from the main body of the church, the larger being 170 feet in height and the smaller, while not near as tall, is of no less pleasing architecture. Both are surmounted by a gilded cross; thus they become the striking features of the facade of magnificent beauty. The arched doorways and the six granite columns which support them give the approach of the church a somewhat classic finish. On the cornerstone, which is a highly polished block of granite, is inscribed, "Deo et Sancto Augustino dictum. J. B. Cotter, Antistite. D. O'Sullivan, Rector. A. D. MDCCCXCIII" ("To God and St. Augustine. J. B. Cotter, Bishop. D. O'Sullivan, Rector"). But impressive as is the outside of the church, it is the interior that gives the pleasure to one who has any love for what is beautiful. The combined effects of statuary and rich colors to be found therein is "as if Nature had fashioned this edifice and placed it here as a fitting place in which to worship her God." From the 250 families of which the congregation was composed upon the arrival of Father Devlin this number has been increased to 350 families, thus showing a steady growth of this parish.

Not alone to the work of the parish has this pastor's attention been turned, but through his efforts a magnificent school has been erected at a cost of \$35,000. There the rich and poor alike may share the advantages of an education. This school is known as the Columbus school. It was started in the spring of 1908 and dedicated in the year 1909. The sisters, or teachers, are furnished by the Franciscan order, and none better are to be found anywhere. Children of all ages may be found here, as the school is graded from the primary to the second year high school. There are at

present eight teachers and about 275 scholars enrolled, the school being a non-tuition one and supported by the parish. Father Devlin has also attained distinction in his profession, having been first appointed vicar general by Bishop Heffron and later appointed by the Pope as Domestic Prelate of the People of the Household.

Perhaps one of the oldest yet still existing societies of the church is the Catholic Order of Foresters, founded in the early seventies, and which still continues to flourish under the leadership of J. M. Lindsay, who is present chief ranger. Next in line are the Knights of Columbus, T. M. Callihan, grand knight; also the Catholic Total Abstinence Union, originally the "Father Mathew Total Abstinence Society," with present officers: President, Lou O'Malley; vice-president, Fred Dugan; secretary, Frank Christie.

Then there are the women's societies, which take an important part in the welfare of the church. There is the Con-Fraternity of the Rosary; Mrs. J. D. Sheedy, president.

Then there is the Woman's Order of Foresters; Mrs. J. E. Malloy the presiding officer. Last but not least is the order of the unmarried women, the Sodality of the Sacred Heart; Elizabeth Kelly, president; Addie Kennan, secretary; Ella Sheedy, treasurer. Among those prominently identified with the early history of the Roman Catholic church at Austin may be mentioned the following gentlemen: A. Brown, Thomas Gibson, William Rutherford, William Furlong, Jr., Cornelius Kenavan and W. I. Brown.

McCabe Methodist Episcopal Church. The Methodist movement in the vicinity of Austin had its beginning in 1854, when Samuel Clayton and wife came to Mower county and settled in what is now Lansing township, on the big bend of the Red Cedar river, just above the present city of Austin. To their cabin early in 1855 came a Rev. W. E. Holbrook from more than 100 miles down the Red Cedar valley and preached the first Methodist sermon in Mower county. The first class was organized at this cabin, with R. Dobbin as leader, and Elsie Dobbin, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Clayton and Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Perry as members. The first quarterly meeting was held at this same cabin in June, 1855, and the Rev. Mr. Coleman, presiding elder, was present. The Rev. Mr. Holbrook deserves more than passing mention. He was a man of rough exterior and appearance but with a heart of gold. He had a crooked nose and distorted mouth, and on making his first appearance in a locality was wont, half facetiously, half seriously, to remark that if such a crooked stick as he could be of any service he would be a very willing servant.

Shortly afterward the Rev. Sylvester Phelps organized what was known as the Cedar Mission within the present limits of

Austin city. The first quarterly conference was held at the home of Silas Dutcher in the village of Austin, October 18, 1856. In the fall of 1857 came Moses Mapes, who had just been licensed to preach. These early services were held in the old Headquarters building, and also in the Lake building on Mill street, on the land now occupied by the H. C. Waldecker buildings. In December, 1857, under his pastorate the first movement was made toward securing church property in Austin, and a committee was appointed at that time to confer with the town authorities with reference to purchasing lots for a church and parsonage, but it was not until May, 1861, that the lots were fully secured.

In the spring of 1858 came a most interesting character in Rev. J. C. Dyer, who was known as "Father" Dyer. He had been a miner in Wisconsin, and was a man of splendid physique and very strong. He became a circuit rider through this and Freeborn counties. He wore a dilapidated plug hat and rode a raw bone horse. He did not possess much of this world's goods, and L. N. Griffith, who was second postmaster of Austin, recalls giving Father Dyer stamps for his letters, as the reverend gentleman never had anything to buy with. He conducted revival services at Cedar City and won all the inhabitants to the church except three or four. He also held a camp meeting, the first ever held in the county, on the land now used for Oakwood cemetery. A life story of this rough but noble soldier of the cross would be one of intense interest. In the state capitol at Cheyenne, Wyo., is the statue of this early circuit rider of Mower county, the statue being in memory of the work that this rough old crusader did among the mountaineers and miners of Wyoming. Father Dyer was on the circuit but a year.

In 1859 Moses Mapes again returned, and in the fall of 1860 came Rev. F. A. Conwell, with whom was associated Rev. George E. Strobbridge. The latter remained but part of the year. In the fall of 1861 Rev. D. Tice became preacher in charge, with J. Lambertson as assistant. In 1862 the circuit, which had embraced fourteen appointments, was divided, and Austin became a part of the Austin circuit. In the fall of 1863 S. T. Sterret became pastor. He was followed in 1864 by William C. Shaw. In 1865 Austin was attached to the Lansing circuit, with W. H. Soule and S. N. Phelps as pastors. At this time the Cedar City circuit was organized. In the fall of 1866 Austin was made a station, with Wayne Carver as pastor.

The first Methodist meetings in Austin were held at the home of Mrs. Chauncey Leverich. Other early Methodist services were held in the old Headquarters building and in a building on the corner of Mill and Chatham streets, both these buildings being shared as meeting places with the Congregationalists and the Bap-

tists. In 1861, under the Rev. Tice, the first church was built. There were only twelve members of that early church, and most of these were women. They purchased the land where the Lutheran church now stands, and there erected their building. The preacher himself dug the rock from the river bed with a crow bar. A bell was put in the steeple, and its peal was the first that broke upon the air of Mower county in call to worship. The church cost \$1,400 in money, and much more in sacrifice. Soon after the completion of this building a revival was held, and many names added to the church rolls. A cabinet organ was purchased later, this being the first ever brought into Mower county. The church was in debt \$300, but the people went ahead and built a parsonage, and it was not until 1876, ten years later, that the \$300 debt could be paid.

In 1868 came that unfortunate affair that nearly wrecked the church and retarded its progress many years. The pastor, A. J. Nelson, and some of the members conceived the plan of buying three lots on the southeast corner of Main and Water streets, and erecting a two-story building. The upper floor was to be used for an auditorium or church, and the lower floor was to be rented for stores, thus providing an income for the church. To carry out the plan the church already erected was mortgaged, and paid in on the lots which were to cost \$3,000. No money could be raised for the building, and the previous indebtedness, with the failure of the scheme, cost the Methodists their church and parsonage. The St. Olaf Scandinavian church, which was organized in 1867, purchased the mortgaged church for \$1,500, and the building was occupied by the Lutherans until they were ready to build, at which time it was moved to the west part of the city. Rev. Nelson resigned in the fall of 1868 and was followed in the fall of 1869 by J. M. Rogers, who only remained one year, and was succeeded by Rev. J. R. Creighton. The last named gentleman resigned in October, 1870.

In 1871, under A. B. Bishop, a new place of worship was secured. An excursion to Minneapolis netted the church a goodly amount after paying all outstanding debts, and the old brick school house on the corner where the Carnegie library now stands was rented from December, 1871, to June, 1873. On the latter date the society bought the building for \$1,500, making the last payment June 6, 1883. In 1887 the building was sold back to the city.

After the affairs of the church were practically straightened Rev. Bishop resigned his position here and for a long while the work of the church went on practically the same. Those who succeeded the Rev. Bishop were as follows: Rev. Levi Hall, 1873 to 1875; Rev. H. J. Crist, 1875 until 1877; Rev. A. Williams, 1877 to

1879; Rev. Alfred Cressey, 1879 to 1881; Rev. E. R. Lathrop, 1881 until June of 1883, when Rev. E. P. Robinson came to fill the unexpired year. Rev. A. W. Edwards came 1884 and remained until 1887. In October of that year the Rev. S. H. Dewart came to Austin and under his pastorate, or the year 1888, the congregation dedicated a wooden church on the present site of the McCabe church at a cost of about \$7,000. After his resignation in the year 1890 the next succession of pastors were: Rev. S. L. Shumate for one-half year and Rev. George Cook for the balance of that year; Rev. G. S. Briggs, 1891 to 1893; Rev. S. C. McAds, 1893 to 1896; Rev. F. H. Cone, 1896 to 1900; Rev. J. M. Brown, 1900 to 1904. Rev. G. W. Lutz commenced his labors with the church in October of 1904. He set to work building up the congregation of his church and during the great revival campaign, conducted by "Billy" Sunday, the noted evangelist, in the spring of 1906, many members were added to the church. In July of 1906 the old wooden church, which had done service for twenty years, was torn down to make room for the present building. The foundation was started in September of that year and the work was in progress for two years. The beautiful new edifice was dedicated June 28, 1908, the cost of the structure being about \$40,000. The building is of the Roman style of architecture, with a Greek gable to the south and an approach of fourteen steps. It is 78x98 feet, surmounted by a beautiful art glass dome. The auditorium occupies the entire main floor, with the exception of vestibule, choir loft, choir room and pastor's study. It will seat 800 people and has a gallery seating 400, making an entire seating capacity of 1,200. The building is practically fireproof, with nothing which could burn except the furniture, woodwork and overlying floor. The basement, which is finished in white brick, contains an assembly room seating 300, around which are eleven class rooms. There are also lavatories, cloak rooms, dining room, kitchen and boiler room. The fuel house is outside the church.

Rev. Lutz remained with the church here until 1909, at which time he moved to Minneapolis, and the Rev. J. F. Stout, of the St. Paul district, was called to serve the Austin congregation. He is a broad-minded man, of executive influence, firm in his purpose to administer to the wants of his pulpit. Dr. Stout was born in the hamlet of Potter, Yates county, New York, from where at the age of five he moved into the state of Iowa and attended the country schools. At the age of eighteen he entered Northwestern University, at which place he took both the preparatory and regular university courses, and graduated 1875. Upon leaving college he joined the Illinois conference and preached at a number of places, including Pittsfield, Springfield, Quincy, Danville and Bloomington. After the last named place he removed to Minnesota, 1887,

and served the Clinton Avenue Church, St. Paul, afterward the First Church of Minneapolis; also at Mankato and Red Wing, and thence again to St. Paul, from which place he was called to Austin.

The church continues to flourish and many societies are in prominence, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Foreign Missionary Society, Ladies' Aid, the Priscillas, the Young Men's Club, and Sunday school, of which last named Roy Furtney is superintendent.

Presbyterian Church. In 1867 Rev. H. A. Mayhew visited Austin for the special purpose of looking up Presbyterians who had not connected themselves with any church organization. He collected a number together and preached to them at such times as he could procure a room. August 20, 1867, he, assisted by Rev. Sheldon Jackson, by authority of the Presbytery of Southern Minnesota, organized the first Presbyterian church of Austin. On the 20th of October, 1867, Rev. Mayhew organized the society into a business meeting, which elected the following board of trustees: Ira Jones, Lyman A. Sherwood, James C. Day, T. W. Woodard and Joseph G. Warner. The board organized by electing Ira Jones chairman, L. A. Sherwood clerk and James C. Day treasurer. The congregation authorized the trustees to purchase a lot and erect a suitable house of worship. This they did, and purchased property on the corner of North St. Paul street and West Mill street, and in the spring of 1868 erected the house of worship where June 11, 1868, the congregation met and elected George Johnston and Robert F. Rankin ruling elders. On the twenty-fourth of the same month the church edifice was dedicated to the services of God, the dedicatorial sermon being preached by Rev. Sheldon Jackson. At the close of the service \$500 was raised by subscription to pay off the church debt. At that time the membership numbered seventeen, with Rev. H. A. Mayhew as pastor. This building is now used by the Grand Army of the Republic. However, the Presbyterian cause grew dimmer and not until the fall of 1877 did it show much progress. In that year the Presbytery of Winona revived the organization, changing the site to the Third ward, placing in charge Rev. D. P. Grosseup, who remained four years. During 1890 a building was erected there, and after a long effort was paid for. Following Rev. Grosseup was Rev. Llewellyn for two years, 1891 to 1893. In March, 1894, Rev. William Henry Hormel came to Austin and during his pastorate the organization of the Central Presbyterian Church was projected, and January 24, 1895, the new organization was launched. Meanwhile the Third ward church was closed and the members invited to join the Central Presbyterian Church. After the starting of the new Baptist church by that denomination the old one framed in native oak was purchased and removed to the

corner of West Water and North St. Paul streets. It was remodeled and became the church home of the new organization. Mr. Hormel ministered to this church continually until December, 1900. During his term of service the church grew rapidly and promised speedily to develop into a strong church. The next minister was Rev. Rhinehart, who began his labors February 1, 1900, resigning November 1 of the same year. Mr. Rhinehart was succeeded by Rev. B. H. Kroeze, who served as stated supply from March 1, 1901, to January 1, 1903. After a vacancy of three months, Rev. Arthur B. Miller became pastor April, 1903, and resigned January 1, 1904. A vacancy of six months followed. July 1, 1904, Rev. T. M. Cornelison began as pastor, resigning November 1, 1905.

The church, weakened by vacancies and short pastorates, racked with dissensions, which naturally arise under such conditions, was illy prepared to endure another six months without a minister. It was a dreary outlook, when March 1, 1906, Rev. William E. Sloan, Ph. D., took charge. In seven months the organization grew to a solid membership of 205. In addition to the splendid growth a new house of worship was erected at a cost of \$15,000. Rev. Sloan resigned and was followed by Rev. J. C. Davis, who remained a time, and since his leaving the church has been without a pastor. The societies represented in the church are the Woman's Missionary, Ladies' Aid, Help-a-Man Brotherhood, and the Sunday school.

Christian Science. The birth of Christian Science in Austin was in the year 1889, when Mrs. Mary A. Engle, who was then an invalid, hearing of its wonderful cures, procured a copy of its text-book, *Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer and founder of Christian Science. She was soon healed of all her ailments and began to hold regular services in her own home with only a few members of the family for audience. This was continued for three years, with two or three others becoming interested. In the spring of 1893 interest had grown sufficiently to enable this little band to form a class for Christian Science teaching by one of Mrs. Eddy's loyal students. These students organized a Christian Science society and held regular services in the Engle home until the year 1896, when the growth of the society demanded larger quarters and a more public meeting place. The Woodman hall on Main street was rented for this purpose. In 1897 the society organized into First Church of Christ, Scientist, according to the statutes of the state of Minnesota and in conformity with the rules and by-laws of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Mass. There were five charter members, Francis A. Engle, Mrs. Mary A. Engle, Mrs. Lucinda Buck, Miss Isabell Phillips and

Robert Waddell. At the first communion, which was held in April of the same year, twelve new members were admitted. Early in 1898 a move was made to the Hayes Bros. hall, which was better fitted for religious services. Another move was made in 1900 to the Elks' new hall, Main street, which was finely located and beautifully finished and furnished. Public reading rooms were opened in the same building. In the year 1905 the church edifice on Maple street was purchased from the Universalists for a church home. At that date the membership numbered between fifty and sixty. The consideration for this property was \$2,500 and they proceeded at once to refurnish it entirely, within and without, until it reached its present valuation of \$5,000. From the date of its organization, 1898, to 1911 this church has given thirteen free public lectures by members of the board of lectureship of the mother church, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Mass. According to the rules and by-laws of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, Mass., "The Bible and the Christian Science text-book are our only preachers." The "scriptural texts, and their correlative passages from our denominational text-book" are read by first and second readers, elected by ballot at the annual church meeting. At the time of the organization of the Christian Science Society, Mrs. Mary A. Engle was first reader and John C. Engle second reader. At the present time (1911) the first reader is Mrs. Etta M. Ousley and Mrs. Anna Franklin is second reader.

It is not the custom of Christian Science churches to dedicate their churches until free from all indebtedness. First Church of Christ, Austin, Minn., is now free from all financial incumbrances and announcement has been made for its dedication on May 21, 1911.

Christian Brotherhood. The Christian Brotherhood is an inter-denominational organization composed of some 600 men. Its purpose is to upbuild the kingdom of God in the most practical and effective manner possible and tends to promote a feeling of brotherly love and co-operation. It is purely a laymen's organization. Meetings are held every Sunday afternoon in Music Hall. The officers are: A. M. Lewis, president; F. H. McCulloch, vice-president; L. H. Steffire, secretary; E. A. Dalager, treasurer, and it is governed by an executive committee composed of two lay members of each church.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY.

The Austin Carnegie Library is one of the important features of Austin life. The library building is of the Grecian style of architecture, one story, with basement throughout. It is built of

Bedford (Indiana) buffstone, with stone cornice and roofing. All the roof valleys and gutters are of copper.

The building measures 56 by 56 feet. The main entrance is from the corner, facing northeast, the vestibule, the lobby and the stack room running continuously across the building, diagonally to the southwest corner. On entering one comes first into the spacious vestibule 16 by 16, with floor of terrazzo tile and Mosaic border. The lobby, 20x20 feet, is in the center of the building, with desk at the further end. The book stack room, 20 by 20 feet, is in the southwest corner. East of the lobby is the main reading room, 15 by 30, fronting along St. Paul street. A reference room, 14x14 feet, is on the south side between the reading room and the stack room, and on the north side is the children's room, 15 by 24. The librarian also has a private room. The whole interior is in quartered oak, and the floors throughout are covered with heavy linoleum. The basement contains a large audience room, as well as smaller rooms. In addition to the main entrance there is a side entrance on the northwest corner.

Frank I. Crane, the first president of the library board, served until his death in 1909. A. S. Campbell, then vice-president, was elected president in 1910. The present librarian, Mrs. Flora Crane Conner, has served since the building was opened. She received her training in the University of Minnesota summer school. The library contains some 7,000 volumes, appropriately divided into reference books, fiction, biography, literature, travel and history.

Historical summary: On March 16, 1869, twelve ladies, as has been noted in the history of the social activities of the city, met and organized the society known as the Austin Floral Club. They adopted a constitution and by-laws and elected officers. Meetings were held semi-monthly and the annual membership fee was 25 cents. Austin was then a village of some 2,040 inhabitants. The first money received was expended for plants and seeds with which to beautify the village homes and develop a taste for floriculture. Their marked success in this encouraged them to give a floral show together with a literary entertainment and concert, from which they realized \$100, which was expended for books. One hundred and twenty-three volumes were received by donation. Thus with about 225 volumes the ladies laid the foundation for the Austin Circulating Library. November 9, 1869, the library was formally opened. The constitution and by-laws of the Floral club were amended so as to constitute it a library association; a charter was secured and the membership fee increased to \$1. The by-laws were subsequently amended making \$2 the annual fee for the use of the library by persons not members of the association. The club then had a membership of fifty. The ladies for many years,

through literary entertainments, concerts, lectures and the like, made constant additions to the library by the purchase of books and through the donations from the government and individuals. March 28, 1894, was observed the silver anniversary of the club. The records showed that there had been 227 members up to that date. Upon completion of the new court house in 1886 a room in the basement was fitted up and set apart by the county commissioners for the use of the library, where the library has remained until removed to the new library building. For some time the members had been actively engaged endeavoring to found a new public library. At the solicitation of its members, acting through W. G. Cameron, they received a proposition from the Hon. Andrew Carnegie to donate to the city of Austin \$12,000 to be used in the construction of a library building on condition that the city donate a proper site for the building and agree to raise a tax of \$1,200 a year to maintain and keep up a library. While the proposition was being considered, Lyman D. Baird made a trip to Washington and secured an interview with Mr. Carnegie's representatives. Later the donation of Mr. Carnegie was increased to \$15,000 for the erection of the library building.

On November 1, 1901, the common council of the city of Austin accepted the generous gift of Mr. Carnegie and agreed to annually levy a tax of \$1,200 and also set apart the lots on the corner of St. Paul and Bridge streets for a site.

On July 19, 1902, a library board was elected at an election held for that purpose. The board elected was organized July 23, 1902. The board took the necessary steps to procure plans and specifications and immediately thereafter commenced the construction and erection of our present beautiful library building. The building was completed in April, 1904. Upon completion of the building the Floral club turned over, without cost to the library, about 3,500 volumes.

AUSTIN CLUBS.

(By Jennie G. Keith.)

Austin is pre-eminently a social town. Not only is there a club, society or coterie for every class, age and condition of residents, but it would be hard to find, in places twice the size of Austin, so many hospitable homes and accomplished hostesses where entertainment is so royal. Good cheer and hospitality are among the first articles of the creed of Austinites. Strangers soon find their social status where they are most at home with congenial companions and find the entertainment which they most enjoy. Every one of our many churches have their own particular societies, where members may enjoy the social life which the church fur-

nishes. For those who desire study there are reading circles and clubs in which the membership is not limited and where one can follow his own particular line of study with intelligent, able leaders. Those who turn to works of charity and find their chief pleasure in lending a helping hand can find societies of this nature already organized, where they will be welcomed as workers. Those who look to society for recreation and enjoyment can surely find a place in the score or more of purely social clubs of our city.

Austin is distinctively a home-keeping city. The ladies since the earliest days have taken their share in all public movements, and in fact many improvements have been inaugurated by the ladies, unassisted by the sterner sex. But Austin is not a club city. The women are domestic, and care for clubs not from a liking for club life but simply for the work which the clubs may accomplish. Consequently we do not find in Austin that multiplicity of clubs which is criticised in some places.

There are but two federated clubs in the city. Some organizations have sprung into being as the women have seen the necessity for effort along particular lines, and have been allowed to die out when the work which called them into existence has been accomplished. Others, however, are still in a flourishing condition.

The first women's movement in Austin was an effort in 1856 to keep the general merchants from illegally selling whisky, and the women pledged themselves not to patronize the merchants who refused to sign a resolution promising not to sell intoxicants. A regular temperance organization was perfected by the women in 1857. The next women's movement of consequence was the organization of the Mite Society on February 1, 1862. This society was formed for the purpose of procuring and improving a cemetery plot. Many ladies' aid societies were also organized at an early day.

An event of historic importance to Austin took place in March, 1869, when the Floral Club was organized. This club is still in existence and has affiliated with the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs. The other federated club in Austin is the Art and Travel Club. Another women's organization is the Era Club, which affiliates with the National federation.

The Stoddard and St. Augustine Reading clubs hold interesting meetings. The Sunshine Society, which is independent of the state society, has done much in a charitable way; the Y. W. C. A. is working for the young ladies, and the W. C. T. U. is aggressively engaged in temperance activities. The Esperanto Club has attracted considerable attention, and the High School Alumni Association and the Birthday Club have been pleasant and important social factors. Two organizations among the high school boys, the

Duodecim and the Knights of the Round Table, have done much to advance literary interest among the younger portion of the population.

Young Women's Christian Association. In 1906 a Y. W. C. A. was perfected in Austin, Mrs. Charles L. West being one of the prime movers in the organization. Neat and attractive rooms were fitted up, and these have served as rest rooms for people in the city and from the country as well as a place for social and religious gatherings by the young ladies. In 1906 there were 275 members, with forty in the Bible class. A year later the membership was 250, and still a year later it was 200. In 1909 it had dropped to 150, and that year a general secretary, Miss Ruby St. Amour, was engaged. The membership is now 540, and the work is in a most flourishing condition. The Philathea Bible class has a large membership, and the gymnasium classes under a special physical director are well attended. Monthly Sunday vesper services are held, and, aside from work along the regular lines, life talks are given and information is imparted in domestic science, household art, home nursing, and other subjects. Mrs. C. L. West was president until 1910, when the present president, Mrs. F. I. Crane, was elected. The other officers are: Vice-president, Mrs. W. R. Terry; treasurer, Helen S. Banfield; secretary, Mrs. M. J. Sorflaten; county secretary, Gertrude B. Sly. Work has been done toward perfecting a county organization, with a view to special work in the villages and rural districts.

The Ladies' Floral Club. This club has been an important factor in the literary, social and moral development of Austin, and is worthy of more extended mention than can be given it in this volume. Its concerts and entertainments have been a part of the history of Austin, and many public movements have resulted directly from its efforts. March 16, 1869, twelve ladies met at the home of Mrs. Orlenzer Allen and organized the Austin Floral Club. The following were the original members: Mrs. H. I. Parker, Mrs. M. J. Mayhew, Mrs. E. M. Morse, Mrs. Q. A. Truesdell, Mrs. H. A. Davidson, Mrs. F. A. Brownson, Mrs. M. S. Lamoreaux, Mrs. A. E. Allen, Mrs. C. C. Crane, Mrs. L. A. Sherwood, Mrs. J. G. Warner, Mrs. P. I. Sargent, and Miss A. J. Lowry. Mrs. E. M. Morse will ever be venerated as the real instigator of the club. She was a great lover of nature, and the club was the result of her proposition that the ladies assist in developing a taste for horticulture and floriculture. Mrs. Morse was the first president and Mrs. F. A. Brownson the first secretary. The season was favorable for flowers and it was decided to give a floral show, and with the proceeds therefrom to lay the foundation for a Ladies' Circulating Library. The show extended several days, and truly beautiful displays of flowers

were made. Books were purchased with the proceeds, and many were donated, so that November 9, 1869, the library of 225 volumes was formally opened in the old court house, southwest of the present court house. During the next few years entertainments of various sorts were held to provide funds. Mrs. J. N. Wheat, Mrs. J. L. Davidson and Mrs. J. M. King each in turn opened her house to receive the books and to serve as librarian. In 1884 the library was moved to quarters in the basement of the present court house. The first regular librarian was Miss Sarah Beatty, who afterward became Mrs. J. R. Webb. She was followed by Mrs. H. H. Kent, who served for many years. Mrs. Morse served as president thirty-two years. Her work lives in the hearts of her associates. Mrs. F. A. Brownson and Mrs. Sarah L. Davidson served many years as secretary. Mrs. Gibson was for ten years treasurer and eight years chairman of the book committee. Mrs. L. A. Sherwood gave much time and effort in the early years in arranging for concerts and musicals. Others who assisted in many ways were the Mesdames N. P. Austin, O. Ayers, E. B. Crane, J. F. Cook, C. H. Coates, H. H. Kent, D. B. Johnson and many others. The club was federated in 1908 and Mrs. O. H. Hegge is the president. The club celebrated its silver anniversary in 1894. As the work of the library increased the burden became too heavy for the Floral club to carry alone and in 1892, at the request of the ladies, a library board of the city of Austin was elected. When the Carnegie Library opened in 1904 the ladies turned over 3,500 volumes.

Art and Travel Club. This club was organized in 1903 for the purpose of mutual improvement, a prime mover in the organization being Mrs. L. D. Baird. The club is limited to thirty members and meetings are held twice a month at the home of one of the members. At each meeting papers are read prepared by various members and roll call is responded to by some current event item. The club has taken up for study the important cities of the United States, the West Indies and South America, English cathedral towns, English history, London and vicinity, the British empire. The present year the club is engaged in study of the Mediterranean countries. Mrs. J. H. Skinner is president.

Era Club. The Era Club, whose members are of the opinion that the name is more attractive than "The Woman Suffrage" club, is devoted to political equality. It was founded by Miss Laura Gregg, of Kansas, national organizer, ten years ago. Miss Gregg was accompanied to Austin and other points by Rev. Ida C. Hultin. The women of all the Austin churches were invited to attend and meetings were held in the afternoon and evening in an edifice since used as a Christian Science church. Mrs. Boostrom was elected president when the club was formed and

served in the executive capacity seven years. Mrs. John D. Smith is now serving as president. The club has entertained the state suffrage convention twice in its history and its influence is wide.

A prominent member is Mrs. Lizzie Catherwood, through whose efforts the local end of the organization was brought to a successful issue ten years ago. At the monthly meetings, held throughout the year at the homes of members, the attendance is notably large, particularly at the evening meetings. Lawyers, ministers, teachers and newspaper writers have addressed the meetings from time to time and the influence of the suffragists is brought to bear on all visitors. The club membership numbers 157. Its aim is to create interest in political equality for women and it takes a part in all efforts to advance the interests of women and children. It has invariably sent delegates to the state convention, and occasionally to the national convention.

Esperanto Club. The Esperanto Club has been organized several years and has numbered a considerable membership. Dr. F. E. Daigneau, who was instrumental in the organization of the club, and who has been president since it was organized, has received a preliminary diploma and advanced diploma, and is first vice-president of the American Esperanto Association. Considerable foreign correspondence has been the result of the study of this universal language.

The Duodecim. The Duodecim Society is composed of young men in and graduates from our high school. The object is good fellowship, self-improvement and development along the lines of debate and extemporaneous speaking. The society was organized in 1903 and is limited to a working membership of twelve. The alumni members are formed into an honorary society, which numbers fifty. The society meets every other week and renders a program consisting of two or three papers on some up-to-date topic and a debate.

An elaborate annual banquet is one of the features of the year's work.

The Knights of the Round Table have an organization similar in many ways to the Duodecim, dating from 1909. They were organized for the development of the young men mentally, morally and socially. Their membership is limited to thirteen. An annual banquet is a club feature.

The Stoddard Club. The Stoddard Club was organized in 1906, Mrs. P. H. Friend being one of the prime movers. Since its organization it has been engaged in the reading of the Stoddard Lectures. The club meets every other Thursday at the home of some one of the members. Two readers are appointed for each meeting and a round table of current events form a part of the

program of each meeting. The club has given to the public library a set of the Stoddard Lectures and a copy of Zona Gale's *Pelleas and Etarre*. The membership is not limited. Mrs. W. H. Albertson is president and Mrs. J. L. Mitchell, treasurer.

St. Augustine's Reading Circle. St. Augustine's Reading Circle is a society of women composed of members of St. Augustine's Catholic Church, who have organized for the purpose of study especially connected with their faith. They were organized as a club in February, 1907, with Mrs. T. H. Pridham the first president. Their work consists of a study of Stoddard's Lectures, and at present the study of the gospel of St. John and the sacraments and commandments of the church. The circle meets the second Thursday of the month for study and is at present under the leadership of Mrs. J. Z. Rogers as president. There were fourteen charter members and the membership has been limited to that number.

Ladies of the Hospital. In October, 1908, a number of ladies under the leadership of Mrs. R. S. Holmes organized an auxiliary to the St. Olaf Hospital Association. The original membership was seventeen; it is now 100. Few if any societies in our city have accomplished as much as the Ladies of the Hospital. During the year they have done the necessary sewing for the hospital, hemming sheets, pillow cases and towels, etc. They have furnished neatly and completely a room in the hospital. They have purchased a wheeled chair, to lighten the work of the nurses. They have contributed an annual gift of jellies and canned goods to the hospital. Through their efforts and leadership a fine ambulance, costing nearly \$1,000, was purchased and presented to the city, a place provided for its housing and the society has undertaken keeping it in repair. The object of the society is to further the good work of the hospital and to assist the nurses in their labor. Mrs. R. S. Holmes is president.

Austin High School Alumni Association. The father of the Alumni Association is L. N. McWhorter. It was through his desire to have an organization that would be helpful from a social standpoint in keeping the interest in the high school and also through his energy that the association was organized. During the summer of 1894 he made a house to house canvas of the graduates. Later a meeting was held in the assembly room of the high school, at which time a constitution modeled after the constitution of the General Alumni Association of Minneapolis was presented and adopted.

The organization meeting was held in the high school assembly room, July 13, 1894, with forty-three charter members. The first annual meeting was held at the Evergreen Farm, in the summer of 1895. All graduates of the Austin High School and

their spouses are eligible to membership. An annual publication, the *Altruist*, is issued. The presidents of the association have been: 1895, A. O. Dinsmoor; 1896, L. M. McWhorter; 1897, Winifred Ober Reed; 1898, Gertrude Ellis Skinner; 1899, Ida Eccelston French; 1900, Ada Morgan Crane; 1901, Ida Smith Decker; 1902, Etta Barnes Decker; 1903, F. W. Greenman; 1904, George E. Anderson; 1905, Fred C. Ulmer; 1906, Cecil Freeman; 1907, Wallace Gregson; 1908, Thaddeus Thompson; 1909, Chester Johnson; 1910, Ralph Crane; 1911, J. N. NicholSEN.

Birthday Club. The club in Austin which has had perhaps the most unique and clever social programs, and which is distinctively social in its function, is the Birthday Club, founded in 1903 at the home of Mrs. A. M. Smith. The membership is practically composed of young married people and the programs and meetings occur at irregular intervals, depending upon the circumstances, the main one of which is the birthday date of the individual member.

The Civil Improvement League has done much toward beautifying the city, planting flowers in waste places, cleaning up alleys and promoting civic pride. Mrs. Flora Conner and Mrs. W. C. Holmes were instrumental in its formation. It was fostered by the Commercial Club, and encouraged by the work of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. The league was organized in 1910.

Sunshine Association. Early in September of 1907, in response to a suggestion made by Mrs. John H. Skinner, the Y. W. C. A. undertook the distribution of clothing and other necessities to the needy. This work had long been done by the *Herald*, but it was felt that closer supervision was needed. Mrs. J. E. Robinson, then secretary of the Y. W. C. A., willingly added this to her other duties. The Ladies' Relief Society of Austin was invited to hold its meetings in the rooms. This had been for many years a splendid organization of representative women, who had generously ministered to the needs of the poor and unfortunate. Owing to illness, death or removal from the city only three members of the organization were active at this time, and the working force was composed almost entirely of new members. At the annual meeting in April, 1908, it was decided to change the name of the society to the Sunshine Association of Austin, to incorporate and to engage a general secretary. This was done at small expense.

The society has about fifty members. Meetings for work are held Thursday afternoons from October to June, although many women who wish to help a good work along visit the rooms on other afternoons, where Flora Johnson, the secretary, always has work for willing hands.



O. H. HEGGE, M. D.

A vast amount of work has been done by this organization. Many comforters have been made and distributed, thousands of garments, new and partly worn, have been passed on, and dozens of complete outfits for infants have been made and given to destitute mothers. During the cold months an average of 200 garments a month are passed on by charitable persons through the agency of the society. An average of ten calls a week is made by the visiting committee. Every cry of distress that comes to the ears of a Sunshiner is quickly investigated and relief always given to helpless women and little children. The association has been enabled to do this work by financial contributions from the Elks, Masons, Eagles, Christian Endeavorers of the Congregational church, a lecture by Rev. J. F. Budlong and generous gifts from other friends too numerous to mention. Last June the Herald generously offered the society rooms rent free, and the Sunshine headquarters are now in the Herald building. At the present time Mrs. C. L. West is president; Mrs. George Sutton, vice-president; Mrs. P. A. Reilly, secretary; Mrs. W. R. Terry, treasurer; and Miss Flora Johnson, general secretary of the organization. Too much credit cannot be given Mrs. C. L. West for her work in this capacity. Energetic, capable and self-sacrificing, she has labored in every good cause which has solicited her attention, and her name is beloved in the many households which she has benefited.

St. Olav Hospital and Training School. St. Olav Hospital and Training School is an outgrowth of a private hospital conducted by Drs. Hegge & Hegge, in some rented rooms over the Daily Register office in Austin, Minn. Owing to the rapid growth and steadily increasing practice of these physicians, it soon became apparent that a hospital should be established in Austin on a more permanent basis, and Dr. O. H. Hegge accordingly went to the annual meeting of the United Lutheran Church, assembled at St. Paul, Minn., in June, 1896, and spoke before the convention of Lutheran clergymen about his plan of having a hospital organized in Austin. This meeting, however, could not be prevailed upon to take any direct interest in the establishment of this hospital; but a special meeting of some of the local clergymen and some of the interested laymen was called, and Dr. Hegge did not give up his efforts until the Austin Hospital Association was formed and incorporated under the laws of the state of Minnesota. The first board of directors was elected the 5th day of June, 1896, as follows: Rev. J. Mueller Eggen, Lyle, Minn., president; Rev. S. O. Rondestvedt, Grand Meadow, Minn., vice-president; Rev. E. T. Rogne, Austin, Minn., secretary and treasurer. P. K. Everson, Hustad, Iowa; L. F. Clausen, Austin, Minn.,

and Dr. O. H. Hegge, Austin, Minn., were the other members of the board of directors.

The Austin Hospital Association, as the corporation was called, immediately acquired sufficient ground at 916 Lansing avenue for the hospital and training school. Lena Nelson, a Lutheran deaconess from Minneapolis, was called as sister in charge, and Drs. O. H. and C. A. Hegge constituted the regular hospital staff, although the hospital also opened its doors to all regular physicians and surgeons in Austin and vicinity. The hospital is located in the best residence district in Austin, overlooking the banks of the Red Cedar, about half a mile from the business center, and removed from the noise, dust and smoke of the factories and railways.

St. Olav Hospital proved a success from the start, and in 1910 it was necessary to build a large addition, as more room was needed both for the patients and for the training school. At this time two new operating rooms with complete surgical equipment were also added, as well as a fine new ambulance, which was donated by the ladies of Austin.

The Corporation. The general purpose of this corporation, according to the articles of incorporation, "shall be the owning, erecting, maintaining and conducting a public hospital for the medical and surgical care and treatment of persons afflicted with disease, admitted as patients therein, and to do and perform all the business incident and necessary to the successful operation of a public hospital. The corporation is organized for benevolent purposes and not for profit, and shall, when able to do so, care for and nurse worthy poor patients admitted into the hospital free of charge. The location of said hospital shall be in the city of Austin, in the county of Mower, in the state of Minnesota."

Membership. A. "The voting members of this association shall be members of any Lutheran church who shall have paid a membership fee of \$5 and an annual fee of \$1. No member shall have more than one vote. B. Lutheran clergymen in and about the city of Austin, Minn., shall be honorary members of this corporation, but may become voting members by paying the fees as prescribed in the by-laws."

The board of directors of the Austin Hospital Association in 1911 are: Rev. J. A. E. Naess, Austin, Minn., president; Rev. E. O. Hofstad, Hayfield, vice-president; W. R. Earl, Austin, Minn., secretary; Gust. Schleuder, Austin, Minn., treasurer; Rev. O. Johnson, Blooming Prairie, Minn., and Seymour Johnson, Austin, Minn. Mr. Johnson has for several years been active manager of the hospital, and under his careful and economical business management the institution has greatly prospered.



C. A. HEGGE, M. D.

AUSTIN SCHOOLS.

The first public school in Austin was organized in the summer of 1856. It was taught by Maria Vaughan in a log house which was afterward occupied by Ormanzo Allen for a dwelling. It stood on the north side of Water street, where James Anderson's dwelling was afterward erected. The following winter, school was held in a frame dwelling, remodeled for the purpose, on Maple street, southeast of where the Fleck house (occupied by the McCulloch Printing Company) now stands. Sarah Bemis was the teacher. The third term of school was taught in the same place by Kate Conkey. The next move was made to the old "Headquarters" in a room which on Sundays was used for church services. This school was taught by a young man named Saxon. About this time Mr. Pike taught in the Hunt & Bassford building across from the court house. "Headquarters" was the place of holding school till 1866, when the first school house was erected on the present site of the Public library. It was a one-story, two-room brick building costing \$2,750. It was later used by the Methodist church, and still later used again for school purposes. It was removed to make room for our fine Carnegie library building. After the fire of 1890, Marian Miller, now Mrs. E. H. Sterling, had 103 first primary pupils in one of the rooms of this school house. Superintendent Fitch suggested that as the weather was too warm to need a fire, the children might be put in the stove. W. T. Mandeville taught the first school therein, commencing in February, 1866. In 1868 the school was first graded into departments. Other teachers in this building during the early years were Mr. Otis and daughter, and Miss Davidson.

In 1869 it was found necessary to provide more school room, and a fine three-story brick structure was erected on the block now occupied by the Franklin high school. It was built by D. J. Tubbs, one of Austin's pioneers, at a cost of \$35,000. It was not completed till 1870. September 12, 1870, Mr. Tubbs, while at work, fell two stories, breaking two ribs. The first teachers in this building were Horace L. Strong, superintendent, Misses E. L. Eastman, Eva D. Sherbondy, Julia Hobart, Ella Cook, and Loi Cook. It was here that the high school was organized by Superintendent E. Bigelow, and where superintendents taught who have since achieved success—James J. Dow, superintendent of the State School for the Blind, at Faribault; Judge W. W. Keysor, professor in the law school of Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.; A. W. Rankin, professor in the University of Minnesota, and George B. Aiton, state high school inspector. This old historic building was burned April 28, 1890. The fire broke out at

8 o'clock in the morning, before the teachers and pupils had reached the building.

The present Franklin high school was built immediately on the same site and was opened March, 1891. It was remodeled in 1907 and is one of the best buildings in the state.

The following ward schools have been built: Lincoln school, in the third ward, in 1887. First it was a four-room building. In 1893 two rooms were added, and in 1907 two rooms more. This school house was burned early in the morning of January 8, 1909. A beautiful eight-room brick building was erected on the same site and fitted up with the latest and best school house equipment.

The Whittier, a two-room school at the south bridge, was built in 1893.

The Webster, a one-room school east of the Milwaukee tracks, was opened in 1891.

The Sumner, a four-room brick school in the north part of the city, was erected in 1894.

The Washington, a four-room brick school, was erected in 1907. It is across the road from the high school building, and the entire basement is occupied by the high school gymnasium, with shower baths and dressing rooms. It is heated from the high school plant.

The Franklin, Lincoln, Sumner and Washington schools have fan ventilation. The Washington building is unique in that the heating coils and fan are located in the attic, the warm fresh air being blown down instead of up, as is usually done. The buildings are all in first-class condition and great care is taken to keep them clean and sanitary.

The people of Austin have always taken great pride in their school and have not been satisfied with anything but the best. The first class to graduate from the high school was in 1877. It consisted of two members, Rose E. Litchfield and Olie Crane. A class has graduated each year with the exception of 1885. The total number to receive diplomas, including the class of 1911, is 621—448 girls and 173 boys. There is a noticeable increase in the percentage of boys in the classes during the last few years, although the class of 1882 was all boys—Frederick R. Clow, Adelbert O. Dinsmoor and Eugene B. Summy. Many have attained distinction. The leading men and women of Austin are numbered among the alumni. A large number have finished their education in higher institutions of learning and are successful in the various professional and business lines.

The High School Alumni Association is a "live wire." Among other up-to-date enterprises, The Altruist deserves special mention. The tenth issue (June, 1910) is before me. It is a twenty-five-page annual edited by Estella Slaven, Daisy Maxwell, Helen

Banfield and Wallace Gregeson. It contains history, reminiscence, wit, and humor which every alumnus will enjoy and appreciate more and more as the years roll by. The alumni association is doing much to form and keep alive school spirit and interest.

The school curricula embrace the latest in educational thought. Courses are offered to meet any demand, whether in academic or industrial lines. Athletics and gymnasium work is encouraged for the purpose of developing manly and womanly qualities and physical health and vigor. From "Milestones of the Austin High School," in *The Altruist*, I quote: 1881, the first laboratory started; 1888, first juniors' reception to seniors; 1894, alumni association organized, organization of the first football team (Mr. Selleck organizer), the introduction of music into the high school curriculum; 1895, first alumni banquet; 1896-7, organization of the first baseball team; 1903, first eighth grade commencement year; 1906, introduction of manual training; 1907, remodeling of interior of high school; 1908, domestic science finds a place in the course; 1909, a high school gymnasium opened, forge work began, pottery work introduced, Alumni Athletic Association formed.

In 1909 the Columbus Parochial School was opened in a beautiful new building, with an enrollment of about 240 pupils. In September last a high school class of about twenty-five was formed.

Our public school enrollment the present year is 1,264, 263 being in the high school. Thirty-eight teachers are employed. The school board members are: H. A. Avery, president; C. I. Johnson, clerk; Alex S. Campbell, treasurer; Joseph Keenan, C. H. Decker and George Hirsh.

Following is a list of superintendents: Horace L. Strong, about 1869-1874; James J. Dow, 1874-1875; E. Bigelow, 1874-1879; W. W. Keysor, 1879-1881; A. W. Rankin, 1881-1884; H. L. Gibson, 1884-1885; George B. Aiton, 1885-1886; E. T. Fitch, 1886-1891; W. E. Aul, 1891-1892; W. F. F. Selleck, 1892-1901; Andrew Nelson, 1901-1906; George A. Franklin, 1906.

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA NORMAL COLLEGE.

A recent writer has said that the story of the Southern Minnesota Normal College reads like a romance. The first conception of such an institution took root when one of its founders was denied the privilege of going to school because of not having the necessary means of paying his tuition.

Immediately after this refusal he walked down and out of the registration room of one of Illinois' educational institutions, and, pausing a moment on the sidewalk, shook his fist at the president's window and said: "I will have an institution some day where any boy or any girl can go to school, no matter how poor and no matter what is the stage of their advancement." This determi-

nation finally resulted in the founding of the Southern Minnesota Normal College and Austin School of Commerce.

In 1896, Charles R. Boostrom made a trip to Minnesota to determine upon a location for the school, visiting Crookston, Red Wing, Kenyon, Detroit and other promising cities. Upon this trip he met Dr. E. M. Shelde, who was at that time conducting a private normal school at Kenyon, Minn. Professor Boostrom became acquainted with Dr. Shelde partly through correspondence and partly through a mutual friend, O. G. Jackman.

On March 16, 1897, Dr. Shelde, Charles R. Boostrom and O. G. Jackman met at Kenyon, Minn., and drew up articles of agreement to incorporate and found a school somewhere within the boundary of the state. The next morning, March 17, found them in Austin, ready to lay their proposition before the city council. The late Frank I. Crane, who was at that time mayor of Austin, immediately called a meeting of the city council and of the citizens, to hear the proposition to be made. Professor Boostrom was chosen to set forth the purposes of the institution to be founded, as follows: To provide an institution, first, for those poor in money put rich in intellect, and whose early education had been neglected. Second, for teachers who had had little time to prepare for teaching and who desired to raise the grade of their certificate. Third, for those who desired a thorough business and shorthand education, and, in fact, anyone, no matter how young or how old, how rich or how poor, who desired the foundations of an education.

Very little was asked from the city except that five acres of land should be provided as a suitable location for the future place and that the school should be given quarters rent free for one year.

Twenty years ago the schools were not good in the Northwest. The settlers were poor and unable to send their children a long distance to school. As a result, throughout the Northwest there are many adults who possess merely the rudiments of an English education. The founders of Austin's independent normal school had the idea of building up the large institution by providing adult classes in common school branches for the class.

The following committee was appointed by Mayor F. I. Crane to complete arrangements with the institution: Gus Schleuder, Dr. H. A. Avery, E. W. Doer, George Hirsh and Ira Padden.

The citizens of Austin readily saw that such an institution, properly and carefully managed, would become a great factor in the development of their town, and provided temporary quarters, in what had been the old Fleck house, for the new school. Meager indeed were the equipments, and perhaps only a score

or two of students met on the beginning day of the first session, September 21, 1897.

When the proprietors arrived to take charge of the work the building was very much in need of a complete renovation. The citizens of Austin delight in telling how Professor Boostrom donned a pair of overalls and, procuring a spade, proceeded, himself, to dig at the debris that obstructed the basement.

From the very beginning the growth of the school was rapid. By the end of the first year over 150 students had been attracted by the excellent instruction and the moderate cost of board, room and tuition.

E. M. Shelde became the first president, Charles R. Boostrom, vice-president and treasurer, while Ole Jackson became the first secretary. This arrangement continued for the first three years, when, on account of the failure of Dr. Shelde's health, he retired from the corporation and Professor Boostrom succeeded to the presidency.

At the close of the first year the college company erected a small frame structure on a tract of five acres of land given it by Albert Galloway, a public-spirited citizen of Austin. The following summer John Harpman erected a dormitory and boarding hall for the use of the college, and the building erected soon proved too small for the "baby giant" of an institution. In an inconceivably short time the attendance had doubled and had doubled again and again, students coming from nearly every northwestern state, for here they had found the place where worth, not wealth, where industry, not raiment, determined their position. The student body consists of every shade of religion and of political belief and of almost every nationality under the sun, all being cultivated and educated in the law-abiding restraints which distinguish the American.

To provide quarters for the rapidly increasing institution the citizens of Austin unanimously voted to erect and equip a building to accommodate not less than 1,000 students. This was but three years ago, yet so rapidly had the news of an institution of this kind spread over the Northwest that the facilities are already becoming crowded.

Perhaps nothing is more indicative of the spirit pervading the institution than the remark made to the committee by Professor Boostrom when the new building was under discussion. "Gentleman," he said, "you can't give us this building. If you build the building for this school you must build with the understanding that we shall have the privilege of paying for the same at the rate of \$1,000 a year until the debt is entirely wiped out. Any institution that cannot pay its way in the world isn't fit to live."

Perhaps the institution would not have been possible had it

not been for the tireless and constant assistance of the wives of its proprietors during the early years of its history—Mrs. Shelde, Mrs. Boostrom, Mrs. Harpman and Mrs. Heilman—in their ambition to aid their respective husbands in their own way and make the institution a success. In the class room and also at the bedside of sick students their work had been done, and well done.

The students are scattered all over the United States from Maine to California; some are in the treasury department at Washington; one has recently distinguished himself as astronomer at the United States observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz.; two hundred or more of them are stenographers and bookkeepers in the Twin Cities; many of them are traveling salesmen; while hundreds of them are meeting with marked success as teachers. For instance, one young man who was working on the farm for \$15 a month six years ago is now traveling auditor for one of the largest lumber companies in the Northwest. Two others have charge of the Chicago branch of the Success Publishing Company.

February 6, 1906, was red letter day in the history of the institution, for then it was that the college had as distinguished guests Governor John A. Johnson, State Superintendent John Olsen, and Gen. F. B. Wood. The guests were entertained at 1 o'clock luncheon at the home of President and Mrs. Boostrom, where they were met by two score of Austin's elite, after which they were escorted to the college chapel, where several hundred expectant students gave them a rousing reception. When the governor was introduced the students fairly went wild, for in him they recognized one who had the same privations and had to fight the same battles in the effort to gain an education.

During the summer of 1909 a new department was added and a new building was built, known as the steam engineering building.

In May, 1910, Vice-President A. F. Harpman sold his interest in the institution to William W. Meiners, who was a graduate of the scientific course of the institution and had also been one of its former instructors in the teachers' department. In June of the same year Professor O. C. Heilman succeeded Professor Harpman as vice-president and treasurer, and Professor W. W. Meiners was elected secretary to succeed Professor Heilman.

AUSTIN COMMERCIAL CLUB.

In other days there have been various boards of trade, but the present club had its beginning in 1903, when the Austin Progressive League was organized. A preliminary meeting was held November 18, at which A. W. Wright was chairman and I. B. Sherwood secretary. Fifteen were present. At the next meeting,

November 25, a large number of professional and business men were present and the following officers were elected: President, A. W. Wright; vice-president, A. L. Eberhart; secretary, T. H. Pridham; treasurer, A. M. Smith; directors, J. D. Sheedy, Nicholas Nicholsen and C. F. Cook; membership committee, F. H. McCulloch, Coyt Belding, John Skinner, E. P. Kelley and Dr. A. W. Allen. Since then the presidents have been A. W. Wright, S. D. Catherwood, R. R. Murphy, Dr. A. W. Allen and O. J. Simmons. There are at present 176 members, and the present officers are: President, O. J. Simmons; vice-president, J. S. Sheedy; treasurer, F. C. Wilbour; directors, F. E. Gleason, E. M. Doane, R. L. Stimson, L. W. Decker, W. L. Bassler and T. A. Revord. The club associates with the Minnesota Federation of Commercial Clubs.

Its work has resulted in a general betterment of business conditions in Austin. The club was sponsor of the paving movement; it has brought industries here; it has fostered the Civic Improvement League; it was active in having the beautiful humane fountain erected here by the National Humane Alliance, and it has helped to advertise the city in various ways. It has also been an important social feature. The name was changed from the Austin Progressive League to the Austin Commercial Club, Aug. 4, 1909.

When the club was organized the first few meetings were held in Harmonia hall, at 115 East Bridge street. Rooms were later opened at 325 North Main street, over the store of C. L. West. The present quarters were occupied September 1, 1909, having been equipped for the special purposes of the club. Few commercial clubs outside of the very large cities have more commodious, comfortable and well-furnished club rooms. A glance at the views presented will give a faint idea of Austin's commercial club's quarters. The floors are of polished birch, the walls decorated in old gold and green. The lights are tungsten lamps in clusters. The woodwork is all old mission oak, and the furniture is upholstered in leather. There are two pool and two billiard tables and a shuffle-board in the amusement room, besides a dozen card tables, the latter separated from the other by an old mission partition four feet high. The amusement room is 50 x 50 feet. The general assembly room is the same size as the amusement room. Here the floor is covered with fine rugs. This room is also used as a reading room. On the north and south sides of the assembly room are consultation and conference rooms. There are two telephone booths, each of which is provided with everything necessary for recording conversation. There are also cloak rooms, lavatories and everything to afford comfort and pleasure to its members.

The business men also have an organization known as the Austin Business Men's Association, which meets to determine the

hours of closing the stores, for the discussion of matters pertaining to their line of work. They are also members of a county organization known as the Mower County Merchants' Association, which has for its purpose mutual protection, collection of bills, etc. Once a year the organization meets to listen to reports from officers and to addresses from able lecturers brought here for the purpose of instruction in promotion of trade.

AUSTIN HOTELS.

Austin is a good hotel town. Every traveling man who has ever "made" the town will tell you so. The first hotel was established here one year after the village was "staked out" in 1855. A year later Austin had two hotels. The city grew up around its hotels, and even today its hotels do much to advertise it.

First Hotel. The first hotel in Austin was opened by J. H. McKinley early in 1856. Previous to this time the traveling public had been entertained at private house and by B. J. Brown, who kept a boarding house. McKinley purchased from Leverich, who had also kept a sort of a boarding house, a frame building located on the present site of the Windsor house.

The Snow House. In June, 1856, J. H. McKinley sold his hotel to George E. Wilbour and Solomon Snow, who took charge in September of that year. This was then known as the Snow house, and contained eight rooms. One of these rooms was large enough for eleven beds; and was called the school section. Snow & Wilbour managed the hotel until 1859, when Mr. Wilbour returned east, and Mr. Snow occupied the house for a time as a private residence. Afterward a hotel was conducted in the building by various persons. The site is at the corner of Mill and Franklin streets.

In 1876, George E. Wilbour made the following remarks in regard to his hotel: "I did not keep the first hotel. There were three before mine, kept by Leverich, Brown and McKinley. McKinley built the first building for hotel purposes erected in Austin, on the present site of the Central house. Solomon Snow and myself became proprietors of this building in 1856, by purchase, after which it was known as the 'Snow house.' Although I was not the first landlord in the place, I represent the first first-class hotel. We had four lodging rooms, and from twenty to forty guests every night. To accommodate them we were obliged to open 'the school section,' in which were eleven beds. Our beds were filled with prairie hay. Our bill of fare was pork, biscuit and dried apple sauce for breakfast; fried pork, biscuit and apple sauce for dinner; and about the same or some of both for supper. But as it was first class, and as I do not wish to misrepresent,

would say we occasionally had a little fresh beef. From 9 to 12 o'clock every evening the boys held a literary sociable, consisting of original recitations, interspersed with more or less music."

The Windsor House was completed on the site of the old Snow house in 1866. It was a frame house, containing forty rooms and veneered in brick. The site is now used for business purposes.

Lacy House. In 1857, J. S. Lacy built the second hotel in the town. It was a two-story frame building with an "ell" attached. It occupied the present site of the Fleck house. Lacy sold this house to Asa Brown, who in the fall of 1865 sold to a man named Cole, who in the spring of 1866 sold to Jacob and A. M. Fleck, who changed the name to Fleck house, raised the main part of the building, and put in a basement and added a story to the "ell" part. As thus enlarged it contained thirty rooms. In 1872 this building was destroyed by fire.

The Fleck House. In 1872, A. M. Fleck erected the Fleck house at an expense of \$16,000. It replaced the old Fleck house which was erected in 1857 as the Lacy house and changed to the Fleck house in 1866, being destroyed by fire in February, 1872. The edifice is a brick structure and three stories in height above the basement. The building is seventy-two feet in length by forty feet in width, with a wing 28 x 32 feet. July 28, 1887, Mr. Fleck sold the place to C. G. Ubelar, of Chicago. It passed through various hands and is now occupied by the McCulloch printing plant.

Davidson House. This house was built in 1857-58, by Joshua L. Davidson, as a private residence. It was a commodious house and was used by him as a private residence until war times, when he made an addition and opened it to the traveling public. He managed it a year or more, then rented it to J. S. Lacy. In the year 1870, Mr. Davidson made a large addition to the house. As thus enlarged the house contains forty rooms. In 1872, Mr. Davidson again assumed the management of the house. He died there about a year later. This house passed through various hands, and was conducted for some years by Justice John E. Robinson. Later part of it was moved to the northward by Lyman W. Baird. The Hirsch block was built on the old site.

Railroad Hotel. This house was built by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company in 1872. It is a frame building, brick veneered, three stories in height, and contains thirty-seven rooms. It was first managed by John McConnell and Nathan Hammond. After one year Hammond sold his interest to Joseph McConnell. The McConnell brothers were succeeded by Ather-ton & Sons; they by Sherwin & French, and they by Hall & Hay, who managed it from 1881 to 1884. The hotel is at present conducted by Mrs. George H. Sutton and is now known as the Depot

hotel. It has wide patronage, and Mrs. Sutton, who assumed the management after the death of her husband, Major Sutton, is an ideal landlady.

Mansfield House. The Mansfield house was built in 1879 by J. H. Mansfield and opened by him late that year. It is a frame building three stories in height, the front veneered with brick. The house contains thirty-five rooms most conveniently arranged. It is now known as the Grand hotel and is conducted by B. E. Shutt.

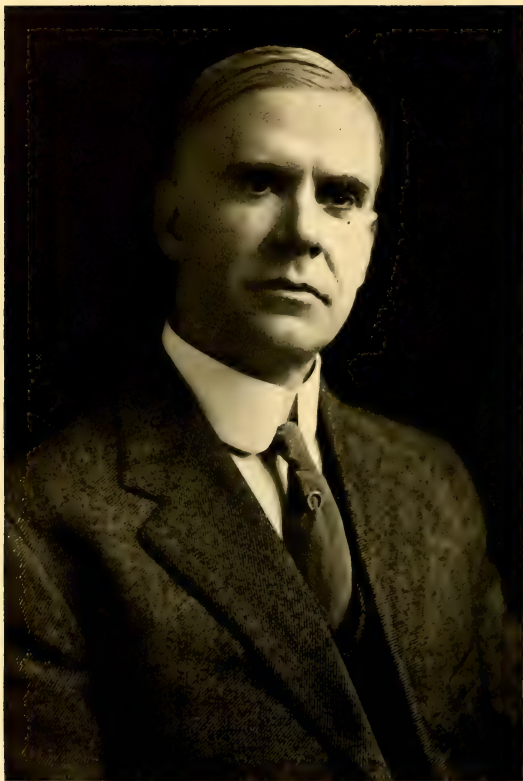
The Grand Hotel. This is a commercial and family hotel, well situated and well conducted. B. E. Shutt, the genial landlord, and his wife personally look after the comfort of their guests, and the house is popular and well patronized. The rooms are airy, well lighted and well kept, and the cuisine is excellent. The hotel was originally called the Mansfield house and was built in 1879.

The Elk Hotel is a modern European hotel. Its rooms are well furnished and supplied with running hot and cold water. The cafe service is excellent. The hotel is pleasing in appearance, both as to interior and exterior, and enjoys a good transient patronage. The proprietor is W. H. Nangle. The Elk hotel is located on an historic corner, the site being the location of the old Leverich buildings. The hotel was built in 1909, on the site of a livery conducted by B. E. Shutt. Burt Churchill was the first manager.

The Fox Hotel is one of the leading hostelries in Austin. In 1890, Charles Fox came here and purchased land on the corner of Water and Main streets. In 1893 he erected a fine brick hotel and opened for business in October of that year. The hotel is modern in every particular, and the geniality of the landlord won a large patronage. Mr. Fox died in the spring of 1911. The appointments of the hotel are excellent and the table and rooms are all that could be desired.

The Harrington Hotel, a modern brick structure, is located near the Milwaukee station and occupies the site of a previous hotel, which was a wooden frame building. The hotel does a good business.

The American House and the **Garman House** are also numbered among the hotels of Austin.



N. F. BANFIELD.

CHAPTER XXII.

BANKS AND BANKING.

Story of the Growth and Development of the Financial Interests of the County, Told by Nathan F. Banfield—First Bank in the County—Banks of Austin, Grand Meadow, Le Roy, Lyle, Adams, Racine, Rose Creek, Dexter, Sargeant, Brownsdale, Waltham, Taopi—Summary of Banking Conditions in Mower County.

The Bank of Southern Minnesota was established at Austin in the early sixties by A. L. Pritchard and A. M. Pett, and continued in business for about two years. It was followed in 1866 by the "Banking and Exchange Office of Harlan W. Page," who came to Austin that year from his native state of New Hampshire. He conducted this as a private bank for about two years, during which time the business increased to such proportions as to require additional capital to properly care for the needs of the community. In the fall of 1868 he enlisted the interest of ex-Governor Samuel Merrill, of Iowa, and his brother, J. H. Merrill, of McGregor, Iowa, in organizing a new bank. Associated with the Merrills in business at McGregor was Oliver W. Shaw, a native of New Hampshire, who had known the Merrill brothers and Harlan W. Page at Tamworth, in that state, before coming west, and they sent him to Austin to look the field over. After doing so he decided to unite with them in the banking business at Austin. As a result of his decision and action, the **First National Bank of Austin, Minn.**, was incorporated and a charter granted to it by the United States government, October 27, 1868, with a paid-in capital of \$50,000. It took until the 15th of February following to complete the organization details, and on that date the new bank opened for business, having bought out and taken over the private banking business of Harlan W. Page. The first officers were O. W. Shaw, president, and H. W. Page, cashier, and they, together with J. H. Merrill, N. P. Austin and E. O. Wheeler, composed the first board of directors. The site selected for the banking house was the northeast corner of Main and Bridge streets, which has continued to be the First National Bank corner. In May, 1870, George F. Trenwith, who had been a book-keeper in the bank, was chosen assistant cashier. In January, 1872, Edward A. Rollins, a capitalist at Philadelphia, and brother-in-law of O. W. Shaw, having become a large stockholder, was elected a director in place of J. H. Merrill. The bank continued under the same management until July 1, 1885, when H. W. Page

disposed of his holdings and resigned as cashier to accept the position of financial secretary of Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn. He was succeeded as cashier by Nathan F. Banfield, whose native place is West Roxbury, Mass., and who entered the employ of the bank in March, 1879, through his acquaintance with E. A. Rollins. He had been appointed assistant cashier in April, 1882, and elected a director in January, 1884, succeeding George E. Skinner, of St. Paul. In June, 1903, he was appointed vice-president and cashier. In May, 1892, Herbert L. Banfield, of Worcester, Mass., who entered the employ of the bank in March, 1886, was appointed assistant cashier, and in January, 1902, was elected a director. In November, 1907, Henry J. Drost, a native of Holland, was appointed assistant cashier and was elected a director, he having entered the employ of the bank in April, 1887. In 1902, Edward H. Sterling was elected a director, succeeding his father, James M. Sterling, who had served in that capacity for thirteen years, E. H. Sterling having been in the employ of the bank since April, 1896. In January, 1909, Nathan F. Banfield, Jr., who entered the employ of the bank in August, 1904, was elected a director. These men constitute the present officers and directors of the bank, and by their faithful and conscientious attention to its affairs have contributed in a large measure to its success. The organization number of this bank in the national system is 1690; its first charter period of twenty years was renewed October 27, 1888, and the second, after forty years of business, was renewed October 27, 1908, for a third twenty-year period. During a career of forty-two years the bank has been most fortunate in having as its head and guiding spirit its worthy and beloved president, Oliver W. Shaw, who is still active in its management. In January, 1902, the capital of the bank was increased to \$100,000, commensurate with the increase in deposits. Its surplus fund is also \$100,000, and undivided profits are \$30,000. The taxes paid the county on capital and surplus average about \$4,000, and for the year 1910 exceeded \$4,200. Interest paid to depositors for several years past on time deposits has averaged \$15,000 per annum. The business has steadily increased until the deposits now average more than \$900,000, having at certain times in the year exceeded \$1,000,000. The total resources March 7, 1911, date of last report to the comptroller of the currency, reached the sum of \$1,312,301. These figures show not only the extent to which this bank tries to fulfill its mission and perform its duty to the community, the territory properly tributary to it, and its patrons, wherever they may be, but they also plainly show how much it owes to its friends and patrons for their loyalty and confidence during these many years. Owing to the fact of having surplus and undivided profits exceeding the capital, it occupies a place on



FIRST NATIONAL BANK, AUSTIN

the roll of honor of The Financier, a distinction enjoyed by comparatively few banks in the state. In many instances Messrs. Shaw and Banfield are doing business with the third generation. For this liberal patronage so long continued, they feel grateful and express due appreciation and hope to merit its continuation in the years to come.

Several young men who have served the bank for periods varying from five to eighteen years, and did their part in promoting its welfare, have been called to responsible positions in other places, and to mention them may not be out of place: F. R. Cordley, who became assistant cashier of the National Exchange Bank, Boston, now with Charles R. Flint & Brother, of New York; T. W. Andrew, who went to the same bank, and is now cashier of the First National Bank, Philadelphia; A. W. Wright, who became a lawyer and has been a practicing attorney of this city for many years; J. N. NicholSEN, who also became a lawyer and is now a member of the law firm of Catherwood & NicholSEN, of this city; C. J. Sargent, who removed to Red Wing, Minn., where he is cashier of the Goodhue County National Bank; W. E. Waldron, who went to Billings, Mont., where he is cashier of the Yellowstone National Bank; L. E. Wakefield, who became assistant cashier of the Northwestern National Bank, of Minneapolis, and is now treasurer of the Wells & Dickey Company, of that city.

The policy of the First National Bank of Austin has always been conservative; it has adhered to true banking principles and its officers have concentrated their energy and attention to the affairs of the bank, believing the public approved of that kind of management and service; and the position the bank occupies, and the esteem in which it is held at home and wherever it is known, seems to confirm that theory as correct. It has passed safely through the panics of 1873, 1893, 1896 and 1907, and through other hard and trying periods; has always stood for solidity and strength, and the people of Austin and Mower county take justifiable pride in this sound financial institution that has served them so well for forty-two years. The First National Bank is a designated depository of the United States and is strictly a home bank, as its stock is all owned in Austin. The last published statement of its condition, made to the comptroller of the currency, March 7, 1911, is as follows:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$729,325.98; overdrafts, \$3,040.39; U. S. bonds to secure circulation, \$100,000; U. S. and other bonds, \$137,828.34; banking house, \$18,000; due from banks and U. S. treasurer, \$242,356.54; cash on hand, \$81,760.40; total, \$1,312,301.65.

Liabilities.—Capital paid in, \$100,000; surplus fund, \$100,000;

undivided profits, less expenses and taxes, \$32,720.26; circulation, \$95,600; deposits, \$983,981.39; total, \$1,312,301.65.

The Mower County Bank was organized at Austin shortly after the First National Bank, in the year 1869, by Sylvester Smith, formerly county treasurer, of Austin; W. T. Wilkins, formerly treasurer of Fillmore county, of Preston, and J. C. Easton, a capitalist of La Crosse, Wis., under the firm name of "Smith, Wilkins & Easton, Bankers." In the year 1882, Mr. Easton withdrew from the bank, as well as from numerous other banks in which he was interested in towns on the Southern Minnesota railroad; and Sylvester Smith having died, the firm was reorganized by W. T. Wilkins and Fay R. Smith, a son of Sylvester Smith, who had for some years been identified with the bank under the firm name of "Wilkins & Smith, Bankers." They had built up a good business and enjoyed a liberal patronage, and their deposits reached a total of \$100,000, which was large for that time in our history. Owing to unwise management and injudicious investments, coupled with the hard times experience at that period, the bank failed, June 12, 1886, and passed into the hands of F. I. Crane, receiver, who settled up its affairs.

The Austin State Bank was incorporated by C. H. Davidson, G. Schleuder, F. I. Crane and R. E. Shepherd, February 1, 1887, with C. H. Davidson, president; R. E. Shepherd, cashier, and C. H. Davidson, Jr., assistant cashier. The bank had a paid-in capital of \$25,000 and opened for business in the building formerly occupied by the Mower County Bank. This was conducted as a state bank until September, 1889, when the Austin National Bank, of Austin, Minn., was organized and succeeded to the business of the Austin State Bank. The first officers and directors were: C. H. Davidson, president; G. Schleuder, vice-president; Henry Birkett, cashier; R. L. McCormick, R. D. Hatheway, F. I. Crane and C. H. Davidson, Jr. The capital stock of the bank was \$50,000 and it first opened for business in the building formerly occupied by the Austin State Bank. It occupied those quarters until March, 1905, when it moved into its own handsome new building at the northwest corner of Main and Bridge streets.

It has had during its existence but few changes in its official corps, its first president being as stated above, who was succeeded in 1895 by G. Schleuder. He continued as president until he resigned in 1898, when C. H. Davidson again became president. On the death of Mr. Davidson in September, 1901, F. I. Crane became president and retained that position until January, 1909, when he was succeeded by C. H. Ross, of Minneapolis. The present officers and directors are C. H. Ross, president; C. H. Davidson, Jr., and J. L. Mitchell, vice-presidents; P. D. Beaulieu, cashier;

F. C. Wilbour, assistant cashier. These together with Ethel D. Mitchell constitute the directorate.

C. H. Ross became first connected with the institution in January, 1909, in his present capacity. C. H. Davidson, Jr., has been a director of the bank since its organization, becoming vice-president in January, 1909. J. L. Mitchell became assistant cashier of the bank in January, 1890, and in December of the same year became cashier, holding that position continuously until his election as vice-president in January, 1909. P. D. Beau-lieu, the cashier, was elected to his office in January, 1909, coming to this city from Graceville, Minn. Following is the published statement of its condition March 7, 1911:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$232,803.67; overdrafts, \$902.94; U. S. bonds to secure circulation, \$50,000; other bonds, securities, etc., \$10,751; banking house and fixtures, \$30,000; other real estate owned, \$55,817.69; due from banks and U. S. treasurer, \$79,901.68; cash on hand, \$21,747.15; total, \$431,930.78.

Liabilities.—Capital paid in, \$50,000; surplus fund, \$10,000; undivided profits, less expenses and taxes, \$7,647.19; circulation, \$48,800; deposits, \$315,483.59; total, \$431,930.78.

The Citizens National Bank of Austin was organized in May, 1893, by C. L. West, J. W. Scott, M. J. Slaven, Seymour Johnson, Jacob Weisel and L. G. Campbell, and those men constituted its first board of directors; C. L. West being president; M. J. Slaven, vice-president; J. W. Scott, cashier; A. E. Johnson, assistant cashier; the capital being \$50,000. The bank purchased the building at the northwest corner of Main and Mill street, of C. L. West, formerly used by him as a dry goods store, which is still their banking house. About two years later C. L. West sold his interest and retired from the bank. L. D. Baird was chosen to succeed him as president and director. He served as such until his appointment as national bank examiner, when he sold his stock and resigned his position. J. W. Scott was then elected president and A. E. Johnson cashier. A. S. Campbell succeeded L. G. Campbell as director, the latter having removed to Blooming Prairie, Minn. The bank continued under this management until in 1902 Messrs. Seymour Johnson and A. E. Johnson sold their stock and withdrew from the bank. B. J. Morey, who had been cashier of a bank in Chester, Iowa, was chosen cashier to succeed A. E. Johnson, and he and Henry W. Lightly were added to the board of directors. In 1903, Jacob Weisel sold his stock and resigned as director. J. E. Crippen, who came from Ortonville, Minn., was appointed assistant cashier and became a director soon after Mr. Morey's connection with the bank. With these officers and directors the bank continued until the fall of 1908, when Messrs. Scott, Morey, Slaven and Lightly retired as officers and

directors and transferred their interests in the bank to Robert Thompson, of Cresco, Iowa, and Lafayette French, P. H. Friend and J. D. Sheedy, of Austin, who became directors of the bank. In 1909 the control of the bank changed again and passed into the hands of H. W. Hurlbut and Sam A. Rask, and they two, with A. S. Campbell, Robert Thompson and J. E. Crippen, compose the present board of directors, with H. W. Hurlbut, president; A. S. Campbell, vice-president, and J. E. Crippen, assistant cashier. Vice-President Campbell is owner of Peerless Mills and has been honored by various positions of trust by the people; is now serving as mayor for a second time. The officers are good business men, and the bank enjoys liberal patronage and is conservatively managed, as the following last published statement of March 7, 1911, shows:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$119,552.35; overdrafts, \$2,487.72; U. S. bonds to secure circulation, \$50,000; banking house and fixtures, \$20,326.15; due from banks and U. S. treasurer, \$48,603.89; cash on hand, \$14,865.25; total, \$255,834.56.

Liabilities.—Capital paid in, \$50,000; undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid, \$2,502.33; circulation, \$50,000; deposits, \$152,876.82; reserve for taxes, \$455.41; total, \$255,834.56.

GRAND MEADOW.

The Exchange State Bank. The history of the original bank in Grand Meadow is a most unique one, as it was not the intention of the originator to go into the banking business. As a merchant, C. F. Greening was engaged in the hardware business, at the same time acting as paymaster for several grain firms. During the fall of 1871 he paid his bills by drawing sight drafts on the commission men in Milwaukee. In the spring of 1872, having been elected to the office of town treasurer of the town of Grand Meadow, which then included the town of Clayton, and some \$1,200 of funds being turned over to him, he was at a loss what to do with the money, not having a safe in which to keep it. Being in Austin shortly afterward and transacting business with the First National Bank there, he noticed they used the Union National Bank, of Chicago, and the Chemical National Bank, of New York, as correspondents. He thought if those two banks were good enough for the First National of Austin they were good enough for him. He at once expressed the town funds to the Union National Bank as his bank capital, and a check book of fifty stamped checks was ordered. He paid eastern bills with checks on the town money and paid town orders with store money, and was now fully equipped to do an exchange business. The merchants soon "caught on," and, instead of expressing money

or registering letters to pay eastern bills, they bought the new bank checks. The farmers also found it convenient, and some little deposits were left with the new bank. A good safe was purchased, with time lock, and the bank was then named "The Exchange Bank," and the rates then established for exchange have never been changed. The Chicago correspondent was not changed until the consolidation of the Union National Bank with the First National of Chicago, the latter bank having since been its Chicago correspondent. For thirty-nine years it has had an account with the Chemical National Bank, New York. The bank was run in this way until the spring of 1874, when F. R. Warner, a brother-in-law of C. F. Greening, was added to the firm and the business carried on under the firm name of Greening & Warner's Exchange Bank, until 1882, when C. F. Greening purchased the interest of Mr. Warner and continued as sole owner of the bank. The capital was at this time \$5,000, and gradually increased until 1906, when it had reached \$25,000. Having grown to such proportions, it was deemed expedient to organize as a state bank. This was done in December, 1906, and the incorporation took effect January 2, 1907, when the doors were opened as "The Exchange State Bank." The first officers were: C. F. Greening, president; P. T. Elliott, vice-president; Elgar F. Greening, cashier; and they, with S. Y. Hyde, Henry Neumann, E. M. Hoff, W. D. Lockwood, C. L. Engen, Adolph Stoltz and George Kuhn, Sr., constituted the first board of directors. The capital stock was \$25,000, fully paid in, and the bank opened for business in the same building that had been occupied by the Exchange Bank for the previous twenty years, at 12 Main street. The business increased so rapidly during the first three years after incorporation that it was decided to build a new bank, which was done during the year 1910, on the corner of Main and Second streets. The new building, costing over \$12,000, was occupied on the 14th day of December, 1910, a beautiful structure, modern in all particulars, built of Indiana Oriental brick and Lake Superior sandstone, 26½ x 75 feet, full two stories and basement, with hot water heating plant, storage vault below, two vaults on the main floor, one for customers' safe deposit boxes, the other for the bank cash and books. The cash safe is one of the latest improved manganese steel, screw door, triple time lock safes, weighing nearly a ton and a half. In addition, the vault is protected with the electric alarm system.

The present officers are: C. F. Greening, president; P. T. Elliott, vice-president; E. F. Greening, cashier, who has held that office over twenty-one years, or since he was sixteen years of age, being at that time the youngest cashier of a bank in the state of Minnesota. The present directors are C. F. Greening, P. T. Elliott,

E. F. Greening, C. L. Engen, Adolph Stoltz, Henry Neumann, W. D. Lockwood, W. R. Peyton, August Detloff, Sr., Frank S. Hambleton and Andrew Lybeck.

The present capital is \$25,000; surplus, \$4,000; undivided profits, \$1,964.78. The following is a statement of the bank as reported to the superintendent of banks on March 7, 1911:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$177,381.28; overdrafts, \$808; bonds and premiums, \$16,320; banking house and fixtures, \$13,697.78; other real estate, \$1,625; due from banks, \$50,593.23; cash on hand, \$6,807.10; total, \$267,232.39.

Liabilities.—Capital stock, \$25,000; surplus, \$4,000; undivided profits, \$1,964.78; deposits, \$236,267.61; total, \$267,232.39.

The capital of the bank remains the same as when incorporated and has made annual dividends of six per cent, besides accumulating a surplus and undivided profits of \$5,964.78 in its four years of life as a state bank. The policy of the bank has been to render to the community all the usual facilities of a conservative country bank, buying and selling exchange, making loans, collecting and discounting notes and securities, fire and insurance agents, selling passage tickets to and from Europe, and all other business incident to banking. The bank does a safe, conservative business and points with pride to the record of thirty-nine years since its inception; that it has always met every demand on presentation; that it has never limited a depositor in his withdrawals, but paid in full on demand, during panics and financial furies, when many others did not. It is not one of the "get rich quick" style of banks, but, like the walls of its new home, is one of the permanent fixtures of Grand Meadow; and of the sixteen banks in Mower county it stands sixth as to capital and surplus, third as to deposits and loans and discounts, and fourth as to total resources.

The Bank of Grand Meadow was organized as a private bank in the early seventies by H. M. Lovell, a merchant of that place, and J. C. Easton, of La Crosse, Wis., who was interested in a line of banks along the Southern Minnesota railroad. It was managed by H. M. Lovell as cashier. This was continued for about ten years, until J. C. Easton withdrew as a partner from the banks with which he was connected, and H. M. Lovell not caring to continue in the business, it was discontinued, Mr. Lovell devoting his attention to his mercantile business in the firm of Lovell & Sheldon, and to his land interests, the Exchange Bank then occupying the field alone.

First National Bank of Grand Meadow. In 1904 the First National Bank of Grand Meadow was organized by R. E. Crane, G. A. Wright, Benjamin Wright, W. H. Goodsell and F. M. Higbie, the first two named being president and cashier respec-

tively. Capital, \$25,000. They built a convenient banking house on the southeast corner of Main and Second streets, and while thought by some at the time of its organization there would hardly be a field for two banks, they have worked up a very satisfactory business, the other bank in Grand Meadow having at the same time made a steady growth, thus showing the thriving condition of the village and the prosperity prevailing in the country tributary. R. E. Crane has been succeeded as president by Benjamin Wright, and he with W. H. Goodsell, vice-president, G. A. Wright, cashier, and C. W. Higbie, assistant cashier, compose the present officers. They have a surplus of \$4,000; average deposits, \$120,000; average loans and discounts, \$125,000, and, considering the time the bank has been in business, it is making a very creditable growth.

LE ROY.

In the early seventies a private bank was established at Le Roy by G. L. Henderson & Co., bankers, known as the Le Roy Bank. After a few years of not very active life it proved unsuccessful and went out of business. It was followed by the banking house of D. C. Corbitt, who conducted it until in the early nineties, when he was succeeded by Strong, Farmer & Edwards, of Spring Valley, Minn., a firm of private bankers, under the name of Bank of Le Roy. This in turn was succeeded in 1893 by the **First National Bank of Le Roy**, of which Wentworth Hayes was president, M. T. Dunn, cashier, and A. J. Hayes, assistant cashier. The bank has a capital of \$25,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$15,000; average deposits, \$150,000, and average loans and discounts of \$150,000. Its present officers are W. K. Porter, president; M. J. Hart, vice-president; A. J. Hayes, cashier; Lynn A. Porter, assistant cashier; M. T. Dunn having sold his interest in the bank and removed to Brainerd, Minn., to engage in the banking business at that place. It is a successful, conservatively managed bank, and has a good record and standing in the community.

In May, 1901, John Frank, C. Hambrecht, S. Englesen, W. M. Frank, William Allen and F. E. Hambrecht entered the banking business in Le Roy under the firm name and style of "Citizens Bank," which they conducted as a private bank until January, 1904, when they incorporated the **First National Bank of Le Roy**, into which the business of the Citizens Bank was merged, and of which William Allen was president; C. Hambrecht, vice-president; W. M. Frank, cashier; Merrill Bowers, assistant cashier. The bank owns its building; has a capital of \$25,000; surplus and undivided profits of \$10,000; average deposits, \$175,000; average loans, discounts and bonds, \$165,000. The general policy of the

bank is conservative and aggressive. It is ably managed by its strong directorate and present officers, the latter being C. Hambrecht, president; F. E. Hambrecht, vice-president; W. M. Frank, cashier; Merrill Bowers, assistant cashier; and is liberally patronized, as the above figures indicate.

LYLE.

In 1892, A. H. Anderson opened the Exchange Bank of Lyle, of which he was sole proprietor and which he conducted as a private bank for nine years. During the early part of that time the business was moderate in volume, but gradually increased until in January, 1901, it had increased to such an extent that it was deemed advisable to incorporate the business and increase the capital. Accordingly, the **First National Bank of Lyle** was organized in January, 1901, by A. H. Anderson, L. W. Sherman, F. M. Beach, A. B. Wilder, John Beach and J. H. Goslee, all of these men being the first board of directors, the officers being as follows: A. H. Anderson, president; L. W. Sherman, vice-president; F. M. Beach, cashier. In 1908, Miss J. C. Reirson became assistant cashier. The bank owns its banking house, at the corner of First and Grove streets. The present officers are F. M. Beach, president; L. W. Sherman, vice-president; R. A. Anderson, cashier, and J. C. Reirson, assistant cashier. The directors elected at the last annual meeting were F. M. Beach, L. W. Sherman, R. A. Anderson, A. B. Wilder and B. J. Robertson. The capital is \$25,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$10,000; average deposits, \$215,000; total resources, \$260,000. It is an ably managed bank, has been successful during its entire career, and has well earned the confidence of the public.

ADAMS.

The thriving village of Adams having been without banking facilities until 1898, in January of that year Mrs. Sophronia Dean, of Northfield, Minn., and J. G. Schmidt, a banker of that place, together with William W. Dean, opened a private bank known as the Bank of Adams, owned and operated by Dean, Schmidt & Dean, with William W. Dean resident partner and active manager. They purchased a lot and built an attractive, convenient banking house, which they occupied as soon as completed. The business was conducted as a private bank until January, 1906, when the **First National Bank of Adams** was organized, into which the private bank was merged. Its first officers were J. G. Schmidt, president; W. W. Dean, cashier. Upon the retirement of J. G. Schmidt, Mrs. S. Dean was chosen to succeed him. The present

officers and directors are as follows: Mrs. S. Dean, president; Michael Krebsbach, vice-president; W. W. Dean, cashier; A. J. Krebsbach, assistant cashier; and L. H. Carter, John H. Krebsbach and Warren H. Dean. The bank has a capital of \$25,000; surplus, \$5,000; average deposits, \$215,000; total resources, \$270,000. The First National Bank has been an important factor in promoting the growth of Adams, has been a successful institution, and has the confidence of the public.

RACINE.

This village, located in the northeastern township of the county, was without local banking facilities until the year 1898, when the "Bank of Racine," a private institution, was opened by Silas Utzinger, C. F. Kumm and S. H. Hale, the active manager being Silas Utzinger. In February, 1908, this private bank was converted into the **Racine State Bank**, which was incorporated at that time by the same interests. The business has steadily grown in volume, the bank now having capital of \$15,000, surplus \$2,000, and average deposits \$75,000. The present officers and directors are Silas Utzinger, president; Chris Schwartz, vice-president; R. W. Chadwick, cashier; E. G. Utzinger, assistant cashier, and C. H. Stephan, S. J. Sanborn, J. G. Schroeder and J. F. Bollinger. Owing to their geographical location, many of their customers are residents of the adjoining counties of Fillmore and Dodge. The bank has been a large factor in developing the interests of this prosperous community and enjoys a high rating.

ROSE CREEK.

Augustus Vaux, a lumber merchant of Rose Creek, in company with F. M. Beach, John Cronan, C. W. Lacy and E. W. Decker, opened the Bank of Rose Creek, a private institution, with F. M. Beach, president; John Cronan, vice-president, and Augustus Vaux, cashier, in the year 1902. These persons sold their interests in the bank to Mrs. S. Dean, William W. Dean and Warren H. Dean in February, 1906, and they conducted it as a private institution until March, 1908, when it was incorporated as the "**State Bank of Rose Creek.**" The following were elected officers at that time and have been re-elected annually: Mrs. S. Dean, president; John Cronan, vice-president; W. H. Dean, cashier. The bank occupies its own building erected in 1902.

The following is a statement of the condition of the State Bank of Rose Creek at the last call on March 7, 1911:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$85,365.30; overdrafts, \$676.12; U. S. and other bonds, \$12,000; banking house and fix-

tures, \$5,085.21; cash on hand and in other banks, \$27,596.75; total, \$130,723.38.

Liabilities.—Capital stock, \$10,000; surplus and undivided profits, \$1,646.97; deposits, \$119,076.41; total, \$130,723.38. This bank is closely connected with the First National Bank of Adams, having substantially the same shareholders, and the foregoing figures tell their own story of the growth and healthy condition of the bank.

DEXTER.

In October, 1902, F. C. Hartshorn, of Clarion, Iowa, who had bought several farms in the vicinity of Dexter, together with his son-in-law, D. L. Mills, and Lee T. Jester, of Grand Meadow, organized a private bank known as the Bank of Dexter, with \$25,000. They built a handsome, convenient banking house, and under the management of D. L. Mills as cashier, conducted the bank for four years, during which time they worked up a good business. In January, 1907, they sold the business to G. A. Wright and W. A. Nolan, of Grand Meadow, and Henry Weber, Jr., F. M. Conklin and G. J. Schottler, of Dexter, who incorporated the business under the name of the **First State Bank of Dexter**, with the above named gentlemen as directors, G. A. Wright being president and F. M. Conklin, cashier. About two years ago the stock held by Grand Meadow people, represented by Messrs. Wright and Nolan, was sold and they retired from the bank. Its present officers are Henry Weber, Jr., president; G. J. Schottler, vice-president; F. M. Conklin, cashier; Theodore Kramer, assistant cashier. Capital \$10,000; surplus, \$2,500; average deposits, \$80,000. The bank is well patronized and doing a successful business.

SARGEANT.

The Bank of Sargeant was organized as a private bank by McD. Williams, of Dodge Center, and Thomas Doig, of Claremont, and F. W. Blanch, son-in-law of the latter, they three being, respectively, president, vice-president and cashier, who conducted it until its sale in 1906 to W. G. Shaffer, of New Hampton, Iowa; W. H. Schoonmacher and F. W. Smock, of Riceville, Iowa, who incorporated it as the State Bank of Sargeant, with W. G. Shaffer, president, and F. W. Smock, cashier, the latter being the resident and active officer of the bank. It has a capital of \$10,000; surplus and profits, \$2,000; average deposits, \$35,000. The bank occupies its own building, having erected a new banking office two years ago. Its owners are connected with banking interests in Iowa and stand highly in their respective communities. It does a

general banking, collection and real estate business, its territory extending into the adjoining county of Dodge.

BROWNSDALE.

The Bank of Brownsdale was organized as a private bank in February, 1904, with \$5,000 capital, the co-partners being N. K. Dahle, William Waterman, J. H. Ruprecht, M. Stephenson and W. G. Weisbeck, the first two named being president and cashier respectively. In January, 1905, William Waterman resigned as cashier, sold his interest in the bank and removed to Nebraska. George M. Shortt was chosen cashier to succeed him. In February, 1908, having run as a private bank for four years, the business was incorporated and the name adopted was the **State Bank of Brownsdale**. Its present officers are N. K. Dahle, president; M. Stephenson, vice-president; George M. Shortt, cashier, and they, together with F. E. Gerbig and W. G. Weisbeck, constitute its present board of directors. It has a capital of \$10,000; surplus, \$1,100; average deposits, \$50,000. It is a prudently managed institution, and the progress it has made reflects credit upon its officers and is evidence of the prosperity of the community it serves.

WALTHAM.

The Bank of Waltham, a private bank, was opened by Veblen, Rask and company, in 1903, with a capital of \$10,000; O. A. Veblen, president; O. P. Rask, vice-president, both of Blooming Prairie, Minn., and at that time connected with the First National Bank of that place, and C. E. Sanders, cashier. It was so conducted until June, 1908, when the Waltham State Bank was incorporated, taking over the business of the Bank of Waltham, A. A. Morsching having succeeded C. E. Sanders as cashier. Built and owns its banking house; is located in a thrifty German settlement and doing a safe and satisfactory business. Has a capital of \$10,000; surplus, \$2,000; average deposits, \$40,000. Present officers are O. A. Veblen, of Minneapolis, president; J. A. Stephan, vice-president; L. S. Chapman, cashier; W. A. Chapman, assistant cashier, all well and favorably known, and the published statements of the bank show it to be in a prosperous condition.

TAOPI.

In the spring of 1906 L. E. Bourquin, of Butler county, Iowa, believing Taopi afforded a favorable opening for a bank, decided to locate there, and in May of that year opened a private bank called the "Bank of Taopi," in the Alleman store building, where

they transacted business until the completion of the two-story brick banking house erected that summer. In March, 1908, the bank was converted into a state organization, adopting as its corporate name "**The First State Bank of Taopi,**" the incorporators being W. F. Jordan, Thomas Kough, P. J. Peterson and L. E. Bourquin, with P. J. Peterson, president; Thomas Kough, vice-president; L. E. Bourquin, cashier, and A. J. Bourquin, assistant cashier. In October, 1910, L. E. Bourquin sold his interest to G. W. Pitts, vice-president of the Bank of Northwestern Iowa, at Alton, in that state, and his son, G. S. Pitts, of the same place, who then assumed the management of the bank. Directors are P. J. Peterson, W. F. Jordan, Thomas Kough, G. W. Pitts and G. S. Pitts, and the officers are G. W. Pitts, president; Thomas Kough, vice-president; G. S. Pitts, cashier, and Gladys C. Pitts, assistant cashier.

The last statement made to the superintendent of banks March 7, 1911, is as follows:

Resources.—Loans and discounts, \$20,374.79; bank building and fixtures, \$4,300; cash and due from banks, \$10,475.17; other resources, \$77.27; total, \$35,227.23.

Liabilities.—Capital stock, \$10,000; surplus, \$500; deposits, \$24,727.23; total, \$35,227.23.

G. W. Pitts purchased about 2,500 acres of what is known as the "Big Taopi Farm," and has erected new farm buildings on some of the places, and is subdividing the large tract into smaller farms, and is active in promoting the interests of that locality.

The Mower County Transcript, one of the oldest newspapers published in Austin, for some time past has collected the statements of the different banks in the county and from them has compiled a condensed statement of all the banks, showing their capital and surplus, deposits, loans and discounts, and total resources. The one taken from the last reports, made March 7, 1911, in response to the call made by the comptroller of the currency to the national banks, and by the superintendent of banks to the state banks, is as follows:

Condition of Banks of Mower County, Minnesota, March 7, 1911.

	Capital and Surplus	Deposits	Total Resources	Loans and Discounts
First National, Austin.....	\$ 232,720.26	\$ 983,981.39	\$1,312,301.65	\$ 729,325.98
Austin National, Austin.....	67,647.19	315,483.39	431,930.78	232,803.67
Citizens National, Austin.....	52,502.33	152,876.82	255,834.56	119,552.35
First State, LeRoy.....	35,000.00	160,840.55	204,543.71	151,219.59
First National, LeRoy.....	30,000.00	190,898.01	250,010.35	166,358.13
First National, Grand Meadow.	29,635.75	180,076.05	233,566.30	118,560.57
Exchange State, Grand Meadow	29,000.00	236,267.61	267,232.39	193,701.28
First National, Lyle.....	33,223.28	217,200.99	260,424.27	173,900.07
First National, Adams.....	30,000.00	214,465.51	270,010.32	168,064.31
First State, Rose Creek.....	11,200.00	119,076.41	131,763.44	85,365.30
State Bank, Brownsdale.....	11,000.00	48,625.05	59,625.05	36,683.99
First State, Dexter.....	12,500.00	82,324.28	94,324.28	64,081.41
Waltham State, Waltham.....	12,290.90	41,292.41	53,583.31	44,173.89
State Bank, Sargeant.....	12,000.00	29,014.68	41,123.25	29,713.11
Racine State Bank, Racine....	17,000.00	74,966.75	92,347.63	56,007.46
First State, Taopi.....	16,000.00	24,730.21	35,814.40	29,374.79
Totals	\$ 625,719.71	\$3,072,120.31	\$3,994,435.69	\$2,380,885.90

CHAPTER XXIII.

PIONEER GIRLHOOD.

Reminiscences of Mrs. Lyman A. Sherwood—Trip From Winona—Incidents on the Way—Arrival in Austin—Austin as a Pioneer Village—Fourth of July Celebration—Incidents of the Early Days—Life in "Old Headquarters"—Work on the Cemetery—Off for the Civil War—Indian Scare—Other Anecdotes.

Austin is fortunate in having as a resident one who came here as a girl, and has lived through the events which have made Austin what it is today. Sprightly as a woman half her years, it seems almost impossible that she saw Austin when but a cluster of houses existed here. There have been few movements in which she has not taken a part, and she is still in the prime of her activities, loved by the few left who knew her as a girl, and revered and held in the deepest affection by the younger generation. The following article by Mrs. L. A. Sherwood, formerly Alta Belle Albro, contains a few of her experiences, the hearing of which when she consents to tell them gives so much pleasure to her friends.

"Reminiscence" I find rather difficult, especially where one is writing for others to read. The events of the past come crowding so thick and fast that it is hard to choose that which will be the most interesting. I find myself going back to the beginning, or rather to the time when the J. L. Davidson family, consisting of father, mother and six children (the eldest brother being at Oberlin college at the time), moved from Winona, Minnesota, to Austin. Moving in those days was not "altogether a thing of beauty and a joy forever." There were no railroads and no easy transportations. One thing we did have, and that was bad roads and plenty of them. Having had a good bit of travel, for a child of my age, before coming to Minnesota, both by rail and boat, I was anticipating a great deal of pleasure in having a four-day trip "overland." We were not going in a "prairie schooner" or with oxen, as many did. We had fine horses, and with a part of our household goods well packed in two respectable looking wagons, and the two cows tied behind, we made a very good appearance. It was on Wednesday, the 24th day of May, 1857, that we left Winona for Austin. Father couldn't talk of anything else. It was going to be another Chicago right away. Getting started rather late in the afternoon, we only went as far as Stockton the first day. I remember what a cosy little nest it

looked, nestled in among the hills. I thought I wouldn't mind staying there always. The weather was beautiful—birds were singing, flowers springing up all around, and the grass was like velvet, and I can remember as we drove along the next day how I enjoyed the winding up and down, in and out, around and about of that road that led us over the bluffs "and far away." We were to leave the bluffs Thursday, and I was enjoying every minute of the time. We had our lunch at noon in a beautiful spot between two bluffs. I had wanted several times during the forenoon to get down from the load and gather flowers, but no! there was no time for that; we were moving. So I made a hasty meal at luncheon time and spent the rest of the time we were to stop in gathering the flowers and moss I had so much wanted. As we rode along on our "winding way" we could often touch the bluffs on one side, while on the other look way, way down, two or three hundred feet or more, and just discern a little stream, trickling along, singing its own little song. When we were on the top of one bluff we could look across and see where we would be on the next one if we ever got there. I had been cautioned when we started about sitting very still when I was on the load alone, for the seat was just laid on, and so far I think I must have remembered to "sit still," for nothing had happened. We were on the top of the last bluff. The road down was very steep. Father called and said "The wheels must be chained." So we stopped, brother got down from the wagon, and I was thinking how would we ever get down that hill, with the wheels chained, and I wanted to see how they chained the wheels. So I leaned over the side and down I went, and the next thing I knew I was going down hill at quite a speed. I was frightened, of course, but I had learned to roll down hill when quite a little girl at Susan B. Anthony's beautiful home, where I used often to visit with my mother, and I thought as I found myself going down, "If I can only steer away from those big rocks perhaps I won't get hurt." However, I think I must have been too much frightened to steer straight, for I was soon caught in a clump of bushes. I picked myself up and climbed to the top of the hill. Mother was so frightened when she saw me fall that she jumped from the wagon, forgetting all about the bird cage which she was carrying and had dropped. She was going after me. Father saw I would soon be in those bushes. So he held her back. After they found I was not hurt and the birds safe, they had a good laugh, very much at my expense, I am afraid. The wheels were chained and mother and I were back in our places. Father told me that hereafter I had better keep my face to the front and my eyes looking straight ahead. The idea of giving a child, and a girl at that, such an order! Regardless of the chained wheels, we reached

the bottom of the hill in safety. The horses pricked up their ears and started off on a brisk trot. It looked like fair sailing now, and as we had left the birds behind (except our own) we began singing ourselves to while away the time. After a while we began having little patches of mud. Then there were more of them. They were larger, and deeper. The wagon would go up on one side and down on the other. I was beginning to wonder how father expected me to keep my face to the front and eyes looking straight ahead, or stay on the wagon either, but I hung on to something and did the best I could, for I hadn't had a father very long, and I confess I was a little bit afraid of him. Finally these mud holes were so bad we couldn't get through them with one team, so it took the four horses to pull the load through, then they would go back and get the other load, and that is the way it was the most of the time till we reached High Forest Friday night. All this while we had had beautiful weather, but Saturday morning there was a change. Clouds began coming. It wasn't quite as warm, but we started bright and early, for it was our last day. About 10 o'clock it was raining hard and growing colder. The rain changed to snow and sleet. By noon we could hardly see the horses, and they finally stopped and refused to go any further. There we were, on that bleak prairie, not a tree or shrub of any kind in sight, and not a house. There was one "lone tree," as it was called, somewhere, but nowhere near us. Anyone who has never crossed that prairie, in the old days, coming from Winona to High Forest, don't know what they have missed. As the horses wouldn't go another step, we concluded to stay, too, and make ourselves as comfortable as possible. The wagons were put together in shape of a "V," the cows tied close behind and the horses close to the wagon box in front. Our bedding was put in the corner and mother, Della (sister) and I and the birds were in and covered up with more bedding, and told to keep still. We had tried to eat our lunch, but were so cold it was impossible. I don't know just how long we stayed there. It seemed a very long time to me, probably an hour and a half, when one of the boys said he believed he heard an empty wagon coming. The storm was beginning to pass away, and soon a man with an empty wagon stopped beside us. He said he was going our way, and the women folks could be put into his wagon. This was done, bedding under us and bedding over us. He said he had only to stop at Pierson's a minute, then he could go right on. When the wagon stopped we knew we must be at Pierson's. A man came to the wagon and said, "What you got, Colby, a load of hogs?" and began lifting the quilts. Very suddenly the quilts were dropped and we concluded the man didn't like the looks of Colby's pork. Our stop was very short and we

were soon on the way again. Mr. Colby, the gentleman who had befriended us, lived two miles out of Brownsdale, towards Austin. When we reached his house we found it was five o'clock. Father and the boys came a while after with the teams. It was so late in the afternoon Mr. Colby thought we had better stay there till Monday, which we did, and were very grateful for the kind offer. We thought we never would get warm again. The Colby home consisted of one room down stairs and one above. There were three children in the Colby family. Thinking of our stay there in after years, I wondered how they managed to stow us all away at night, but they did, and Sunday afternoon there was a Methodist class meeting there. We could do anything in these days.

Leaving the Colby family, whose hospitality we were so grateful for, we reached Austin Monday morning about ten o'clock, the twenty-ninth day of May, 1857. We came into town by the "Old Territorial road," now known as "Lansing avenue." We had a very good view of our future home. At the head of Main street, where the Fox residence is, was the home of L. N. Griffith. To the west on Water street, where the George Hormel residence is, was the home of the Rev. Stephen Cook. That completed the houses of any description west of Main street. Main street at that time was nothing but hazel brush. There were no streets. One could go where one chose. We drove to the hotel kept by Snow & Wilbour, the only hotel in the town, located on Mill street, on the site of the Williams house. To go the same way today would take us through Murphey's dry goods store and the meat market of John Briebach. Across from the hotel there were two or three small buildings, one occupied by Yates & Lewis as a store. Dr. Orlenzer Allen, the father of Dr. A. W. Allen, now here, had a drug store in the same building. A little further east on the south side of the street, where the German hotel now stands, was a log building, the home and store of Father Brown. Water street had a few buildings. J. C. Ackley lived where the express office now is, or a lot below. Then there were perhaps half a dozen more going toward the river. A Mr. Walters lived in one. A Mr. Brown lived in another. Esquire Sylvester Smith and Dr. and Lawyer Allen lived in others. Possibly there were a few others. There were three houses on Chatham street, where the Elk hotel now stands. R. L. Kimble and his brother had a hardware store in the first. The postoffice was also there, and the family lived in the second floor. The next store was that of Sprague & Hanchett. The last was the home of Chauncey Leverich. I think these were all the buildings with the exception, possibly, of one or two others right in the same vicinity. I had taken them all in while waiting for father and mother to decide

what to do about remaining at the hotel. Of course I did not then know the names of the people, but learned them afterward.

And I am reminded right here how the first Dr. Allen happened to make his home in Austin. In the fall of 1856 he started from his home in Wisconsin with his wife and son George for Faribault to locate. Coming by way of McGregor, they reached Austin by night. So they were obliged to stay here until the next day. The hotel was so full they could not be accommodated there. Mr. Snow took them over to a Mr. Brown's, son of the merchant, living on Water street, where the large double house now stands. They found they could have a room for the night. They had been there but a few minutes when a man came for the doctor to pull a tooth. This he did for fifty cents. The next morning, while at breakfast, a man drove up to the door in great haste. He said he had heard that there was a physician there. He wanted him to go and see his wife, who was very ill. The doctor being a very kind-hearted man, could not refuse. So he went and did not go on his way to Faribault, as he had intended, the next day. The result of this hurry call was that Mower county had one more voter, and Dr. Allen decided to remain in Austin, where it was apparent he was very much needed. Thus he became our first physician and remained here for many years, finally going back to Wisconsin, where he felt that his duty called him. When he left here he retained his property, thinking to return. The time, however, never came, as he was called to his eternal home. His son came a few years later, bringing the dear mother with him. Mrs. Allen was one of our first callers, and the friendship begun in those early days continued until the day of her death, which was only four or five years ago, when she was in her eighty-second year.

"But to resume," as "Samanthy" says. We found after going into the house that the people were glad to see us and glad that we had come to town. But it was Monday morning, the house was full and there was not much to eat, and to have seven more come to dinner looked like a mountain to Mrs. Snow, as she confided to us after we became better acquainted. We decided to go over to the house. Father had bought a piece of salt pork and potatoes from Mr. Colby, we had brought some provisions with us, and thus could get our own dinner. So we started cross-lots again through hazel brush and I am afraid right through "The First National Bank." But that did not matter in those days. On reaching the building, mother did not know whether to laugh or to cry. It looked like a great barn. The front below was not inclosed. The stairs were on the outside. On going upstairs we found one large room. Not a word was said, but I think father must have known how we felt, for he said: "Well,

this is the only place. We'll have to stay here till the house is ready for us." Sis said: "Every back is fitted for its burden," so we went to work. The stove was immediately set up; by noon the table was set, and a good dinner ready to be eaten, and what is more, seven hungry people ready to eat. By night we had a very comfortable looking home. Carpets and sheets were used for partitions, and if we didn't have all the comforts of life, we had a place to stay.

We had brought with us quite a supply of provisions, half barrel of butter, sacks of codfish, coffee and everything in that line, for father said it would be hard to get things to eat. What we wanted most was fresh meats. Once in a while a farmer would sell a pig, but unless one had ordered it or happened to get to the man first when he came to town, one was not so sure of getting a piece. The farmers hadn't many pigs to kill, and beef was out of the question. Callers began coming the very next day after our arrival. We thought it very kind in them to come and not to be formal about calling, and then they had a curiosity to see how we looked. They had been here all winter long and not a new arrival. We found there was another reason in several cases. Mrs. Kimbal was the first to come. How well I remember her—her black eyes snapping, with the fun that was in her. She stayed quite a while. Finally she said I like the looks of those cows about as much as anything; don't you think you could let me have milk right along? There was no reason why we could not, so mother said yes, she could have it by the quart. Mother didn't know how much it would be as yet. Mrs. Kimbal said she had been paying ten cents a quart all the time; that was what everybody paid. Mother thought if that was the case, that's what we would charge, but it was terrible. The callers didn't always want something to eat, but when they did they knew they could have it. The boys were going to Winona every week for lumber for the house, and they could always bring out supplies of some kind, and in this we all did quite a bit of trading, which finally led to our having a store of our own. No man would go to the "river" for goods of any kind unless others were going. It wasn't safe. The roads were in such a terrible condition the most of the time that they might find themselves going to China, and no one to help. So if there wasn't two teams to go no one went, or it was very seldom one would start out alone. And it was so easy to get out of things. One little incident I must mention. Father came in one day and said: "Wife, have you any darning needles?" Mother answered: "Yes, two or three. Why, did you want them?" "No, I was just down to Brown's store; a man from the country came in for supplies, among them darning needles. Mr. Brown had but two; the man wanted both. Mr.

Brown wouldn't let him have both; it would break his assortment, and besides someone else might want one. I thought if you didn't have any, I'd go and get that one."

The second Sunday we were here there was a terrific storm came up in the afternoon. It came so quickly there was no time to think what to do. We were all outdoors, mother, Della and I. We hurried upstairs as fast as possible, but could hardly get up, the wind was so bad. We were in just in time to see the west windows blown in. We couldn't keep the door shut, so I found a stick and braced it against the door, then sat on it to keep it in place. Milk pans were blown off, shelves and everything went helter skelter. We expected the house would go over. The men couldn't get upstairs, and they expected every minute to see the building go over. Galloway's new building blew down; also Mr. Ackley's new house, which was being built where the "Hub" building now stands, was blown down, but we were spared any serious accident. Every one in town was ready to come to our assistance and was watching our building till the storm had passed.

We had a Fourth of July, too, that first summer. The exercises were held somewhere near Kenwood avenue, west, under the beautiful oaks, which at that time might have been taken for a good sized orchard. We had a "fife and drum" to head the procession. Esquire Smith was president of the day, Judge Allen read the Declaration of Independence, Rev. Mr. Gurney gave the address, Rev. Cook offered the prayers, and the singing was what might have been expected from a much larger town. The singers were Wm. Cook, John F. Cook, Rufus Kimble, John Hallot, Quincy Andrews, Mrs. Dr. Wheat, Mrs. R. Kimble, Mrs. J. L. Davidson and Hattie Adams. I was too small to be in the chorus, but my hoop skirt was there, borrowed for the occasion and worn by one of the ladies.

Flowers decked the speakers' stand, culled from nature's green house. Everything had passed off finely. They had come to the end of the program when the president arose to make his last remarks, closing by saying, "We have been hearing about all kinds of institutions this morning, now we will adjourn to the bread-and-butter institution," when down went the platform and everybody on it. It had been built rather high, and not very secure, and was so surprised with the amount of talent Austin had displayed that it just collapsed. No damage was done. Everyone felt so happy on that beautiful day that they were not going to let a little thing like that mar their pleasure. Ample justice was done to the good things that had been prepared to make men happy. People came from far and near, with ox teams, horse teams and on foot, to that first "Fourth of July" celebration.

Austin was always an adventurous town, it seems, adding a good deal of spice to every undertaking. Austin had been chosen the county seat, but we had to steal the records in order to get them. These were hid under a bed for safe keeping until the excitement had died out. The county treasurer did not know what he could do for excitement, but finally decided to burn the books. J. E. Willard, deciding to return east (or rather his wife deciding), determined to let his friend, Ed. Ford, have his office as clerk of the court. Another man, however, went to Judge Donaldson and got his official appointment, feeling quite gay that he had for once outwitted someone. But when he wanted the belongings to the clerk's office, those holding them would not give them up. Thus some time passed. Finally a plan was made by which to get the desk and records, the desk being nothing but a table about three feet long with a box containing a few pigeon holes. The clerk's office at the time was in Galloway's store by the front window, behind the counter. A customer was found that would go some night after dark and purchase some goods that was kept in the cellar. As one small lamp was the only light kept in the store in the evening that light had to be taken to the cellar. While the parties were in the cellar with the light, Allen Mollison jumped over the counter, which was quite near the door, and the "clerk's office" was easily lifted over the counter and went to its new home. Everything seemed to be all right, but the "seal." That could not be found, and it was some time before it was found. Then in some mysterious way it came to light again and was hid in a pile of calicoes in Mrs. Davidson's store, till it was thought safe to produce it.

The first concert given in Austin was by the Sherwood brothers, assisted by John Hallot, a young gentleman living in Austin at the time. It was given in Headquarters the latter part of July, 1857. A little later a family by the name of Baker came and gave us a treat in the musical line. So from the first Austin has always been called a musical town.

The women of Austin have always been foremost in work for the betterment of our town. How well I remember the time when a meeting had been called at our house for forming a society, by which, in some way, we could earn money to purchase grounds for a cemetery. There had been several deaths here and no place to bury our dead. The society was formed and called the "Ladies' Mite Society of Austin." The men, hearing of what we had done, thought it time for them to go to work. This they did, and they purchased the ground that is known as the old part of the cemetery. A very small portion up in front was surveyed and laid out in lots. The ladies took the work of fencing the ground. The men did nothing more towards finishing the survey or lay-

ing out the rest of the blocks. Several years passed. When the ladies thought it was time again for them to do something, we decided on a day (I think it was a day in September, 1864) for work on the cemetery grounds and invited the men to help us. We were to give them their dinner and supper. Early in the morning of the day appointed one could see men and women carrying implements of all kinds, wending their way to the cemetery, and all day one could see men and women working, the women driving stakes, holding chains, picking brush and burning it. The dinner and supper were served across the street in the yard belonging to William Crane. Austin certainly looked like a deserted village that day, and the work which the ladies begun has been kept up till now we have one of the most beautiful resting places for one's loved ones "gone before" in Minnesota.

Shall I ever forget the day the little company of men, headed by Captain Mooers, marched into town? It was known they were coming. A "war meeting" was to be held in the afternoon, and I had thought to have my little school dismissed before they arrived. But when the sound of that "fife and drum" broke upon our ears we all rushed to the door, pupils and teacher, and we were there ready to receive them. So they came to a halt before the door, and it is needless to say they were received with cheers and the waving of handkerchiefs from the little band of scholars that were there to receive them.

Before that company of soldiers left town that night their numbers had been increased by several of our own townsmen, and many will remember that that brave captain was one of the first to fall for "his country" in a very few months after going to the front. The ladies of Austin purchased a silk flag for the company with the names of the donors printed upon its silken folds. It has been through many a battle, but never was trailed in the dust. It was brought home by the captain, George Baird, after the close of the war and is now in Mrs. Baird's possession.

The people who lived in Austin in October, 1862, will never forget the night we expected the Indians and they didn't come. We made great preparations for them and posted our sentinels on the outskirts of town. The blacksmiths were running bullets all night. A company had just been raised in Austin and the towns and country around and had gone to reinforce General Sibley, who was then fighting the Indians, so our force of men was not as large as it would otherwise have been. We had brave ones left, however, and they worked with a will. Nearly all thought it not possible for the Indians to get here, but the people were coming in so thick and fast, hotel and private houses filling and many would not leave their wagons for fear they would not

reach them in time to get away. When the Indians did come, such a frightened lot you never did see—children were brought in half dressed, women with no shoes on, or perhaps one shoe. It was enough to frighten anyone, knowing what had just been done around New Ulm. Father and mother were away and would not return till next day, so sister and I were all alone. We had friends that came to stay with us and finally two or three families that came to the hotel and couldn't get in wanted to come to our house and we were glad to have them.

Mr. Ackley told me if I could get father's papers and our small silver in any shape that wouldn't take up any room I had better get them ready; we would want some quilts, he would have his horses ready and could take all that was at our house if the Indians should come. I put three dresses on my sister and three on myself, put the silver and papers into two towels, sewed them securely, then put one on Della (my sister) and I wore one, bustle shape, and in that condition we waited and waited. Three shots in quick succession was to be the signal. Sometime after midnight the first one came. We were at the door in an instant, each with a bundle of silverware. But the other shots were never heard and about daylight, after much pleading and many tears, I allowed Della to take off some of her extra adornments.

And so ended our Indian scare.

In looking over the past fifty-four years and thinking what Austin was and what she is today we feel we can well be proud of our little city. We have never had a boom and for many years had no railroad. We had a great many things to contend with, but we have come out of the fray with our banners flying and we are a "city of homes."

Of the J. L. Davidson family that reached Austin on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1857, only two remain. The rest are lying in our beautiful Oak Wood cemetery, waiting. The two are: Adella Davidson Mandeville and Alta Belle Albro Sherwood.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE NEWSPAPERS.

Introduction by Gertrude Ellis Skinner—Story of the First Newspaper in the County—History of the Founding, Growth, Development and Present Status of the Journals of Mower County.

The newspaper of today is the history of tomorrow. Editors seldom think they write history. Your copy of the local paper may be used to wrap the family laundry, cover the pantry shelf or be placed under the carpet. In a month from the time a newspaper is issued, it would be difficult to locate a single copy, but in the newspaper office itself, it has been preserved and placed upon file. These files become an asset of the office and increase in value as the papers become yellow with age. Here in the musty volumes is found the history of your town, your county, your state. The history of this county could not be written were it not for the records of newspaper files. The State Historical Society recognizes the value of newspaper history and a complete file of every newspaper in the state is kept by the Historical Society. Inaccurate history, do you say? Perhaps so, and yet the most accurate it is possible to get, and infinitely more nearly accurate than almost any other historical source. The editor of a newspaper not only means to get correct information but uses the source method for every important article he prints. Each day, if he edits a daily, each week, if a weekly, his effort stands before the bar of public criticism. His critics are those intimately concerned in the articles published. They do not trust to memory, hearsay, legend or tradition. They are eye or ear witnesses or star actors in the passing drama. They surely are trustworthy critics. With them the newspaper must pass muster. If facts are not stated correctly, they are corrected. What other history could stand this crucial test? The newspaper that is not substantially accurate, cannot and does not live. Time gives authenticity. Criticism is forgotten, minor inaccuracies overlooked and the newspaper record stands as the accepted history of an event. A newspaper is not mere gossip. It is a record of passing events. Reports of buildings, new industries, biographies, social events, religious movements, births, deaths, politics, policies, honors that come to people, crimes which blacken our record, onward and backward moves in progress, disasters, amusements, accidents, epidemics—all make up the newspaper history of a community. It is the mirror of life as it is daily lived here and now.

The newspaper is everywhere recognized as the adjunct of civilization. The new town, however far removed from the busy marts of trade, clamors for a newspaper. Never satisfied until it gets one, and never satisfied after it has one. The newspaper is the nucleus of criticism for the entire community. Everyone knows how it should be run better than the editor. Its policies and its literature are criticized and yet people want it and at heart are loyal to it, for they recognize its value. They read it and want it to push along movements they are interested in. A religious revival, county fair, market day, civic improvement measures, new policies or politicians—all need the newspaper to give them an impetus. The press must arouse the people. Through no other avenue can so many be reached. A mass meeting can touch but a mere handful compared with the numbers reached in each issue of a newspaper.

The more progressive a community, the more they read newspapers. Mower county has always been a good field for the press, because of the intelligence of its people. There are but few families in the entire county where the local newspaper is not read. It is an interesting fact that this county has never had a newspaper printed in a foreign language.

Mower county has eight newspapers—seven weeklies and one daily. They are: The Grand Meadow Record, The LeRoy Independent, The Adams Review, The Lyle Tribune, The Mower County Republican, The Mower County Transcript, The Austin Weekly Herald, The Austin Daily Herald.

AUSTIN.

Mower County Mirror—Mower county had been organized about two years before a paper was printed within its borders. Several efforts were made to secure the establishment of a paper, but each failed. Finally, David Blakely, who was then publishing a paper called the Pioneer, at Bancroft, Freeborn county, was induced to come to Austin and establish the Mower County Mirror. The consideration of this removal, it is said, was the election of Mr. Blakely to the office of register of deeds of Mower county. Bancroft, where Mr. Blakely had been engaged in the publication of the Pioneer, was an embryo village, located a short distance northwest of Albert Lea. It was then a competitor against Albert Lea for the county seat honors, and Mr. Blakely's paper took an active part in the fight which, however, ended in the securing of the coveted prize by Albert Lea. Early in the fall of 1858, the office was removed to Austin, and with the same material, the Mower County Mirror was brought into existence. The head of the new paper was delayed in reaching here, and

for several weeks the paper was issued at Austin, bearing the old head, "Bancroft Pioneer." C. H. Davidson rolled the forms and set type for the first issue of the *Mirror*, being then a lad of eleven years of age. During the years 1859 and 1860, Mr. Blakely held the office of register of deeds and continued the publication of the paper. Finally, early in the fall of 1860, he removed the press, type and material to Rochester, and there established the *Rochester Post*.

The Minnesota Courier.—After the publication of the *Mirror* ceased Mower county was without a paper for several months. The want of a newspaper, however, was soon supplied by the establishment of the *Minnesota Courier*. The first issue made its appearance December 5, 1860, as a six column folio, all published in Austin. The founder was B. F. Jones. Among the home advertisers in the first issue were the following: Attorneys, Aaron S. Everest, Allen & Shortt, D. B. Johnson, Jr., G. M. Cameron. Physicians, Drs. J. N. Wheat and Orlenzer Allen; T. J. Lake, county treasurer; Piper & Hunt, blacksmiths, J. S. Lacy, hotel; S. W. Rice, blacksmith; H. B. Kimball, painter; G. W. Bishop, sheriff; E. Parleman, jeweler; H. S. Holt, wagon maker; and G. W. Mitchell, cabinet shop. The publication of the *Courier* was continued until January 4, 1864, when it ceased to exist. The editor, B. F. Jones, had gone into the service, and his father, William C. Jones, took charge and managed the paper for some time previous to the last issue.

The Austin Register.—The first issue of the Mower County Register made its appearance July 2, 1863. H. R. Davidson was editor and proprietor. The paper was then a six-column folio sheet, all printed at home. The subscription price was \$1.50 per year. Among the advertisements in the first issue were the following: W. Truesdale, farm machinery. Allen & Shortt, Aaron S. Everest and H. R. Davidson, attorneys. H. Jacobs, manufacturer and dealer in ready-made clothing. J. S. Lacy, proprietor Lacy House; V. P. Lewis, hardware dealer. Lansing advertisements: Hartly & Sons, plow manufacturers and blacksmiths. "Western Home House," S. T. Wells, proprietor. E. F. Armstrong, manufacturer of men's boots and shoes. Brownsdale cards: Thomas Allred, boot and shoe store. Heath House, R. C. Heath, proprietor. One of the local items in the second issue was the following: "We want no Jeff. Davis!" H. R. Davidson continued the management of the paper until his death, which occurred May 4, 1864. At this time C. H. Davidson, a brother of the founder, took charge of the paper, and shortly afterward the firm name "C. H. Davidson & Co." appeared at the mast head. In the issue of July 14, 1864, it is announced that James T. Wheeler, of St. Charles, Ill., had become associated with Mr.

Davidson in the publication of the Register. The firm became Davidson & Wheeler. The new member of the firm did not, however, remove to Austin, and in a short time his connection with the paper was severed. After this C. H. Davidson continued to conduct the Register alone, until August, 1868, when H. O. Basford purchased a half interest in the paper, and the firm of Davidson & Basford was formed. In April, 1871, D. W. Craig became a partner of Davidson & Basford in the publication of the Register. June 29, 1871, the name was changed to the Austin Register. Davidson & Basford continued the publication of the Register until June 13, 1878, when that firm was dissolved, C. H. Davidson selling his interest to H. O. Basford. After retiring from the Register Mr. Davidson purchased an interest in the Transcript. In August, 1883, the Register office, with the balance of Basford's brick block, fell to the ground, causing a great loss to all the owners. The cause, it is supposed, was the poor quality of stone used in the foundation of the building.

Mr. Basford ran the paper alone until January 12, 1899, when he took his son Harry into partnership. In 1901 the paper was leased to S. Sweningsen, then postmaster, who ran it for a year with W. G. Cameron of Winona, as editor. H. O. Basford & Son then resumed management. Mr. Brooks purchased an interest and the firm became Basford, Brooks & Basford. Mr. Brooks remained but a short time. The next change came when John Bingham purchased a half interest and the same year the Basfords sold their interest to W. J. Tyler. Mr. Bingham retired and Mr. Tyler ran the paper until May, 1908, when the Register suspended publication. A daily was published from December, 1890, until 1908.

Mower County Republican.—The equipment of the Register was purchased by Miss Jennie Keith and Paul C. Keith and the new publication called The Mower County Republican started August 21, 1908, with Keith & Keith as editors. The next April Mr. Keith went to Adams to assume charge of the Adams Review, which the firm had purchased, and Miss Keith took sole charge of the Republican.

Mower County Transcript.—This paper made its first appearance on April 16, 1868, at the village of Lansing. It was then a seven-column folio, neatly printed and edited. Colwell Brothers were the publishers, and A. J. Burbank editor. Those were the most bitter days in the history of Mower county, and the warfare of the "Page" and "anti-Page" factions, as they were called, brought Mower county into notoriety throughout the whole West. The Transcript was started in the interest of the Page faction, and the Register assumed the "anti" side. A few years later the Transcript changed its views and both papers vigorously prose-

cuted a common cause. A few weeks after the first issue the name of Sherman Page is hoisted at the head of one of the columns as editor of the teacher's or educational department. At that time he was county superintendent of schools. A few months later the name of A. J. Burbank was taken from the columns as editor, and the Colwell Brothers are stated to have succeeded Mr. Burbank. Still later it appears that Prof. J. H. Johnson, Mrs. Maria Doolittle and Ella Cook had charge of the educational columns.

The Transcript was published at Lansing until the issue on December 17, 1868, which was dated at Austin, the office having been removed to that place. The Colwell Brothers remained in charge of the paper until the issue of April 1, 1869, when it passed into the hands of Colwell & Boardman. The former, A. N. Colwell, was the senior member of the old firm of Colwell Brothers. A few weeks after the change of proprietorship the paper was enlarged to a nine-column folio. For several months during the summer of 1869, the paper was run without any name or names at the head of its editorial columns, but finally in the issue on September 30, 1869, the announcement is made that "George W. Wright assumes the editorial and business management." He retired with the issue of November 25, 1869, and was succeeded by George H. Otis. At this time the Transcript was owned by what was called the Transcript Company. George H. Otis, who succeeded Mr. Wright, conducted the paper alone until the issue of March 2, 1871, when Col. C. A. Lounsberry secured a half interest in the paper, and the firm of Lounsberry & Otis was formed. Mr. Lounsberry took the editorial and Mr. Otis the business management. Col. Lounsberry remained with the Transcript until May 25, 1871, when he withdrew.

After the withdrawal of Colonel Lounsberry, George H. Otis continued the management of the Transcript until August 31, 1871, when the paper was purchased by A. A. Harwood. Mr. Harwood owned and conducted the Transcript for a number of years. On July 23, 1874, the paper was changed to an eight-column folio, having for some years been smaller. During the spring of 1877, S. C. Eldred became associate editor and business manager. Mr. Harwood had become postmaster of the Austin office, and Mr. Eldred, who had been foreman of the office, was taken into partnership. His connection with the paper in that capacity, however, was brief, and Mr. Harwood again assumed sole charge. In this shape the paper was continued until the issue on June 13, 1878, when the paper and outfit was purchased by C. H. Davidson and J. N. Wheeler, and the name of the firm Davidson & Wheeler appears at the head of the columns, succeeding that of A. A. Harwood. Mr. Harwood was a trenchant writer

in one of the stormiest political periods in the county's history. He died at Washington, D. C., August 17, 1884.

Davidson & Wheeler conducted the paper until January 2, 1879, when C. H. Davidson purchased his partner's interest. Mr. Davidson sold to Parke Goodwin and C. L. Barnes December 17, 1886, and they sold to S. S. Washburn and N. S. Gordon of Wasceca, April 1, 1887. The paper was changed January 14, 1887, to its present form of eight pages, six columns. Mr. Washburn sold his interest to Mr. Gordon December 25, 1889, and Mr. Gordon erected the two-story brick block on Mill street, still occupied by the Transcript. In April, 1891, the Transcript became all home print. October 16, 1893, Mr. Gordon sold a half interest to C. D. Belden and devoted himself to the mechanical department. Mr. Belden bought out Mr. Gordon December 10, 1898, and has since been editor and sole proprietor.

The Austin Herald.—In 1881 the Mower County Democrat was first issued, with Campbell & Hunkins as editors, Mr. Campbell, whose home was in Spring Valley, running a Spring Valley department. In May, 1890, A. B. Hunkins, who was then running the paper alone, conceived the idea of issuing a paper every Saturday evening and delivering it by carrier to the various homes in the city. The plan was to be tried for three months and the subscription price 25 cents. The paper must have proved popular, for on November 9, 1891, the Austin Daily Herald was issued. It was printed in a large room, on the second floor of the brick building, corner of Water and Main streets. In August, 1892, F. H. McCulloch bought a half interest in the job department. Mr. Hunkins secured a site at the head of Main street and erected a small frame building of peculiar style of architecture, which was the home of the Herald until 1890, when a lot was purchased on Lansing avenue and a three-story brick veneer building, 16x24, erected. Mr. Hunkins was appointed postmaster and Mr. McCulloch ran the paper for one year, from January, 1895, to January, 1896. During this time the daily issue was discontinued and only the weekly edition, the Mower County Democrat, issued.

On January 13, 1896, F. H. McCulloch bought the job department and C. F. Ellis and Frank Roble the newspaper. The publication of the Daily Herald was resumed and under different ownership has been published continuously since. October 1, 1897, John H. Skinner, of Holyoke, Massachusetts, bought Frank Roble's interest and for a year and a half Ellis & Skinner were owners and publishers. Under their management the politics of the paper changed from Democratic to Independent Republican and the name of the weekly publication was changed from the Mower County Democrat to the Austin Weekly Herald.

July 1, 1899, Mr. Skinner became sole owner by purchase of Mr. Ellis's interest and ran the paper with his wife, Gertrude Ellis Skinner, as associate editor, until December 1, 1907, when Fred C. Ulmer purchased a half interest and under the ownership and management of Skinner & Ulmer both publications of the Daily and Weekly Herald are at present issued.

The Herald has outgrown its quarters, which were ample ten years ago, and has built a new building of cement stone, including the old building and exactly twice its size. Two type-setting machines (Typographs) have replaced hand composition and a new Duplex Web Perfecting Press has been installed.

The success of the Herald has demonstrated that a newspaper can be run independent of the financial aid of politicians or a political party, as the Herald has never taken money in politics, and therefore claims its title of Independent with some pride.

The Austin Democrat.—This newspaper was first issued July 8, 1868. The founders were Isaiah Wood and Milo Lacy. The paper was an eight column folio sheet, all published at home and Democratic in politics. The firm of Wood & Lacey continued the publication of the Democrat until February 23, 1870, when Milo Lacey, on account of ill health, withdrew from the firm, and was succeeded by a Mr. Cook.

On October 11, 1870, Isaiah Wood, the senior editor of the Democrat, after a prolonged illness, died of quick consumption, aged a little over twenty-eight years. In November, Milo McWhorter purchased the Wood interest in the Democrat, and the firm became McWhorter & Cook. In a short time, however, Mr. McWhorter became sole proprietor and conducted the paper alone, until its publication was suspended. The last issue was that of July 12, 1871.

The Independent.—This paper was established at Austin on August 26, 1874, by B. F. Jones, formerly editor of the Minnesota Courier, as editor and publisher, and G. W. Haislet, proprietor. The publication of this paper was continued until May, 1875, when it died.

The Mower and Fillmore County Republican.—The Mower County Republican appeared August 27, 1875, printed at Preston, Minn., with T. F. Stevens as editor and A. E. Meigs, business manager. Five or six weeks thereafter Maj. W. A. Hotchkiss removed the Fillmore County Republican to Austin, and consolidated with the first named paper, as the Mower and Fillmore County Republican.

The Austin Times.—The Times was started in June, 1895, by Tom Hutchinson, who ran same as "Hutchinson's Times" until the first of February, 1896, when he deserted the paper. The plant was purchased under chattel mortgage foreclosure by S. H. Har-

riſon, who then took poſſeſſion of the paper and plant, iſſuing the firſt number February 22, 1896. He remained as its proprietor from then until February, 1903. During this time it was for two years the official paper of Mower county and alſo iſſued from the ſame plant a morning daily for about ſix months—from May, 1901, until November of the ſame year, when the plant was burned. In February, 1903, E. B. Kottek and John Jenſen became the editors and proprietors by ſale and published the ſame until the fall of the ſame year, when the publication and the plant became the property of the holder of the mortgage, Ira Padden.

The LeRoy Independent.—This newspaper was founded by a man named Haynes in 1875, as the “LeRoy News.” He continued it for about ſix months and ſold to C. B. Kennedy, who was its editor and proprietor for three years and then leaſed the office to James A. Henderson, who managed it a year, with C. F. Burdick as aſſiſtant for about three months. J. S. Biſhop then purchased the office and operated the ſame nearly three years, and then ſold to J. McKnight, who took poſſeſſion April 16, 1883. After J. McKnight there were ſeveral changes. Then came S. C. Wheeler, B. T. Barnes and A. E. Pennell, ſucceſſively. William M. Frank, John Frank and C. F. Hambrecht then owned the paper for a while. They ſold to S. E. Bronſon, and after him came Harlan G. Palmer, who in February, 1908, ſold to Ralph Preſcott, the preſent editor.

Grand Meadow News.—The firſt newspaper at Grand Meadow was called the News. It was ſtarted in 1878, by the Dunlevy Brothers, who came from Lanſing, Iowa. It was Republican in politics; a bright, newsy ſheet, and for ſome time received ſubſtantial encouragement. It was run at Grand Meadow for about two years, when it was removed to Lanſing, Iowa.

Another paper, alſo called the News, was later eſtabliſhed in Grand Meadow. It was ſtarted in the ſpring of 1880, by M. V. Scribner, a photographer. He ran the paper for about one year, then removed it to Fairmont; and later to Wells, Minnesota.

The Grand Meadow Record.—This publication had its firſt iſſue in Grand Meadow in December, 1882. L. G. Moore founded this journal. The early files have not been preſerved. Bert A. Johnson is the preſent editor of the paper.

Grand Meadow Mercury.—In the ſpring of 1880, B. F. Langworthy & Son eſtabliſhed the Grand Meadow Mercury. They conducted it here for a little over one year, then removed it to Auſtin. In the early ſummer of 1882 the paper was removed to Spring Valley, Fillmore county, and the name changed to Spring Valley Mercury.

Brownsdale Journal.—Volume 1, number 1 of this ſix column folio, made its appearance July 1, 1884. Roſa E. Moore was

editress and assistant manager, her husband, L. G. Moore, being the owner and manager.

The Brownsdale Leaflet.—On August 6, 1890, B. A. Johnson, son of M. B. Johnson, with a small hand lever press and a few fonts of type, launched forth the first issue of the Brownsdale Leaflet, size 9x12. It was later enlarged. On July 1, 1891, the News outfit, a paper whose life was but three months, was purchased from J. W. Burchard and the paper enlarged to a six column folio. On October 1, 1892, L. L. Quimby moved from New Richmond, Wisconsin, and purchased a half interest and the paper was enlarged to a five column quarto. On June 1, 1893, Mr. Quimby purchased a half interest with B. E. Baldwin in the hardware and implement business, which interest he held until the following March, selling to D. L. Tanner. About a month later, April 19, Mr. Quimby purchased Mr. Johnson's interest in the Leaflet and conducted it alone until May 17, 1907, when he was forced to give it up on account of his growing telephone business. Since that time Brownsdale has had no paper.

The Lyle Tribune, an independent paper, is printed and published at Lyle by Wm. Nordland. The paper was established in 1893. Elmer T. Wilson was one of the early editors. The paper was published by John Gould & Co. from 1896 until January 1, 1902, when sickness forced him to retire from business. At that time the paper was leased to Mr. and Mrs. R. Ferris, who managed it until July of the same year, when Chas. Gould & Co. took charge of the paper, until December 1, 1902, when it was purchased by the present owner. The printing office has been located in various parts of the village, but never had a permanent home until November 1, 1909, when the present building was purchased. In the early years of the paper an old Washington hand press and a few fonts of type was the equipment, but in 1907 a cylinder press and gasoline engine were installed, which, together with the other modern equipment that had been added from time to time, put the plant on a substantial basis, enabling it to turn out the work required by the thriving village in which it is located. Under the present management the circulation of the Tribune has nearly doubled, and the job department has become one of the strongest features of the plant.

The Adams Review.—The Review is the youngest of the Mower county newspapers, and was established in 1897 by V. W. Sabin. Two years later W. F. St. Clair of Nebraska, acquired an interest in the paper. Mr. St. Clair increased the business and subscription list of the paper considerably and enjoyed an excellent patronage. In 1906 he sold the plant and business to K. L. Niles, and in April, 1909, Mr. Niles disposed of the property to Keith & Keith, who are also owners of the Mower County Re-

publican, Austin. Paul C. Keith is the resident editor and manager, and is well supported by the enterprising business men of Adams. The Review aims to furnish all the local news that is news, and has a large list of subscribers in southern Mower county. The paper gives evidence of a continued prosperous career.

Alumni Altruist.—When interest in the Austin High School Alumni Association began to wane, Ida Smith Decker conceived the plan of publishing a paper to be circulated among the absent as well as the local members of the association, the paper to contain greetings and news from the various classes and graduates. Mrs. Decker was the author and editor of the first edition, which was published ready for the annual alumni meets in June, 1901. It served its purpose admirably and interest was at once awakened. It has been published every year since with the exception of 1903. The omission was so marked and the call for the paper so insistent that at every alumni meeting since a fresh, crisp copy of the Altruist has been the central attraction. Unlike some of our county publications, it has always been self-supporting.

Copies are mailed to members all over the country. It is the only publication of its kind in the state and has done more to make the association a success than any other factor.

The following have served as editors: 1901, Ida Smith Decker, '81; 1902, Etta Barnes Decker, '79; 1904, Gertrude Ellis Skinner, '81; 1905, Ada Morgan Crane, '92; 1906, The Todd Sisters, '99, '02, '04; 1907, George E. Anderson, '93; 1908, Grace Kimball, '95; 1909, Fred C. Ulmer; 1910, Stella Slaven; 1911, Lucile Gilbertson.

Among the newspapers of the county started within the last decade, which lived but a few months and then ceased publication are: "The Racine Recorder," "Rose Creek Rose Bud" and "Austin Weekly Journal." For several years "The Dexterite" was published in Dexter and then for lack of patronage suspended publication.

CHAPTER XXV.

THE PHYSICIAN.

His Proud Achievements—His Solemn Oath—His Ethics—The True Physician—His Reward—His Delicate Relation to the Human Family—His Inventions and Discoveries Free Gifts—The Pioneer Doctor—His Character and Services—His Limitations—The Pioneer Physicians of Mower County—The Mower County Medical Association—Edited by A. W. Allen, M. D.

“Men most nearly resemble the gods when
They afford health to their fellow men.”

In an age when, in the combat of man against man, heroes are worshiped according to the number they slay in battle, it is inspiring and elevating to be permitted to pay tribute to the men who won glory in fighting disease and through whose devotion and skill thousands of useful lives have been saved and been made happy.

“For every man slain by Cæsar, Napoleon and Grant in all their bloody campaigns, Jenner, Pasteur and Lister have saved alive a thousand.” The first anæsthetic has done more for the real happiness of mankind than all the philosophers from Socrates to Mills. Society laurels the soldier and the philosopher and practically ignores the physician. Few remember his labors, for what Sir Thomas Browne said three hundred years ago is surely true: “The iniquity of oblivion blindly scattereth her poppy and deals with the memory of men without distinction to merit to perpetuity.”

“Medicine is the most cosmopolitan of the three great ‘learned’ professions. Medicines never built a prison or lit a fagot, never incited men to battle or crucified anyone. Saint and sinner, white and black, rich and poor, are equal and alike when they cross the sacred portals of the temple of Aesculapius.” No other secular profession has ever reached such a consciousness of duties which it corporately owes to the rest of the world. What are the principles which a profession, more profuse in its disinterested charities than any other profession in the world has established for its guidance?

It was about 2,300 years ago that the practitioners of the art of healing began to take an oath emphasizing the responsibilities which the nobility and holiness of the art imposed upon them. Hippocrates, forever to be revered, gave the oath his name. When

a Greek physician took the Hippocratic oath and a graduate of the modern medical school takes it, the act is one not only of obligation for himself, but of recognition of a great benefactor of mankind. The Hippocratic oath assumes that when a man has learned the art of restoring the sick to health he has passed into a realm in which the rules of personal selfishness are immediately abridged, if not expunged, and recognized in a system of principles and rules governing all licensed physicians, and enforced and respected by high-toned and cultured gentlemen—a standard of professional honor so sacred and inviolate that no graduate or regular practitioner will ever presume or dare to violate it.

Robert Louis Stevenson, seeing the life of the medical man only from without, was not far wrong when he spoke of the modern scientific medical man as probably the noblest figure of the age. The noble and exalted character of the ancient profession of medicine is surpassed by no sister science in the magnificence of its gifts. Reflecting upon its purity, beneficence and grandeur it must be accorded to be the noblest of professions. Though the noblest of professions, it is the meanest of trades. The true physician will make his profession no trade, but will be accurate in diagnosis and painstaking in prescribing. He will allow no prejudice nor theory to interfere with the relief of human suffering and the saving of human life; and will lay under contribution every source of information, be it humble or exalted, that can be made useful in the cure of disease. He will be kind to the poor, sympathetic with the sick, ethical toward medical colleagues and courteous toward all men.

The true physician is he who has a proper conception and estimation of the real character of his profession; whose intellectual and moral fitness give weight, standing and character in the consideration and estimation of society and the public at large. His privileges and powers for good or for evil are great; in fact no other profession, calling or vocation in this life occupies such a delicate relation to the human family.

There is a tremendous developing and educating power in medical work. The medical man is almost the only member of the community who does not make money out of his important discoveries. It is a point of honor with him to allow the whole world to profit by his researches when he finds a new remedy for disease. The greatest and best medical and surgical discoveries and inventions have been free gifts to suffering humanity the moment their value was demonstrated. The reward of the physician is in the benefit which the sick and helpless receive, and in the gratitude, which should not be stinted, of the community at large. Medical men are not angels; they are in fact very

human creatures with hard work to do, and often many mouths to feed; but there is a strain of benevolence in all their work. From the beginning they are taught a doctrine of helpfulness to others, and are made to think that their lifework should not be one in which every service must receive its pecuniary reward. The physician is a host in himself, a natural leader among his fellow men, a center of influence for the most practical good, an efficient helper in times of direst need, a trusted and honest citizen. What more can any prophet ask than honor in his own country and a daily welcome among his own friends!

It does not take long for the waves of oblivion to close over those who have taken a most prominent and active part in the affairs of the day. The life of the pioneer doctor is no exception to this law, for as, Dr. John Browne tells us, "It is the lot of the successful medical practitioner to be invaluable when alive, and to be forgotten soon after he is dead, and this is not altogether or chiefly from any special ingratitude or injustice on the part of mankind, but from the very nature of the case." However, the pioneer physician still lives in the memory of many of us, though he is now more rare as an individual than in the years gone by, and is gradually passing out of existence. The history, written and unwritten, of the pioneer physician of Mower county, as elsewhere, presents him to view as working out the destiny of the wilderness, hand in hand with the other forces of civilization for the common good. He was an integral part of the primitive social fabric. As such he shared the manners, the customs, the aims, and the ambitions of his companions, and he, with them, was controlled by the forces which determine the common state and the common destiny. The chief concern of himself and companions was materially engaged with the serious problem of existence. The struggle to survive was, at its best, a competition with nature. Hard winters and poor roads were the chief impediments. Only rough outlines remain of the heroic and adventurous side of the pioneer physician's long, active and honored life. The imagination cannot, unaided by the facts, picture the primitive conditions with which he had to contend. Long and dreary rides, by day and night, in summer's heat and winter's cold, through snow, and mud, and rain, was his common lot. He trusted himself to the mercy of the elements, crossed unbridged streams, made his way through uncut forests, and traveled the roadless wilderness. He spent one-fifth of his life in his conveyance, and in some cases traveled as many as two hundred thousand miles in the same.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has graphically described the old doctor's daily routine: "Half a dollar a visit—drive, drive, drive all day; get up in the night and harness your own horse—

drive again ten miles in a snowstorm; shake powders out of a vial—drive back again, if you don't happen to be stuck in a drift; no home, no peace, no continuous meals, no unbroken sleep, no Sunday, no holiday, no social intercourse, but eternal jog, jog, jog in a sulky."

He always responded to the call of the poor, and gave freely his services to those who could not pay without hardship. Who can narrate the past events in the life of such a man? His deeds were "written upon the tablets of loving and grateful hearts, and the hearts are now dust. The long and exhausting rides through storm, or mud, or snow; the exposure to contagions; the patient vigils by the bedside of pain; the kindly deeds of charity; the reassuring messages to the despondent; the shielding of the innocent; the guarding of secrets; the numberless self-abnegations that cannot be tabulated, and are soon forgotten, like the roses of yesterday." Wealth did not flow into the old practitioner's coffers; in fact, he needed no coffers. He was a poor collector, and with all his efforts he obtained but little, and never what was his due. As an offset to the generally acknowledged abilities of the old doctor in every other line of his work, it must also be admitted that he was greatly deficient in business tact. Often content with the sentiment of apparent appreciation of services rendered to his patrons, of lives saved, of sufferings assuaged, and of health restored, he was too easily satisfied with the reflection that he had a very noble profession, but a very poor trade.

Though poor in purse, he was rich in heart, in head, and in public esteem. He made at least a very measurable success of life, if success consists in being of some small use to the community or country in which one lives; if it consists in having an intelligent, sympathetic outlook for human needs; if it is success to love one's work; if it is success to have friends and be a friend, then the old doctor has made a success of life.

He was a lonely worker, and relied largely on his own unaided observation for his knowledge. Isolated by conditions of his life, he did not know the educating influences of society work. He was a busy man, with little leisure for the indulgence of literary or other tastes. He possessed, however, what no books or laboratories can furnish, and that is: a capacity for work, willingness to be helpful, broad sympathies, honesty, and a great deal of common sense. His greatest fame was the fealty of a few friends; his recompense a final peace at life's twilight hour. He was a hardworking man, beloved and revered by all. He was discreet and silent, and held his counsel when he entered the sick-room. In every family he was indispensable, important, and oftentimes a dignified personage. He was the adviser of the

family in matters not always purely medical. As time passed, the circle of his friends enlarged, his brain expanded, and his heart steadily grew mellowed. Could all the pleasant, touching, heroic incidents be told in connection with the old doctor, it would be a revelation to the young physician of today; but he can never know the admiration and love in which the old doctor was held. "How like an angel light was his coming in the stormy midnight to the lonely cabin miles away from the nearest neighbor. Earnest, cheery, confident, his presence lightened the burden, took away the responsibility, dispelled the gloom. The old doctor, with his two-wheeled gig and saddle bag, his setons, crude herbs, and venesections, resourceful, brave and true; busy, blunt and honest, loyally doing his best—who was physician, surgeon, obstetrician, oculist, aurist, guide, philosopher and friend—is sleeping under the oaks on the prairies he loved so well."

"We shall ne'er see his like again,
Not a better man was found,
By the Crier on his round,
Through the town."

The early history of the pioneer physician is naturally a story of feeble resources. His professional limitations were, therefore, necessarily great. To enable us to understand these limitations we must take a retrospective glance at the conditions of medicine sixty years ago. Imagine, if you can, the forlorn condition of the doctor without our present means of physical diagnosis, without the clinical thermometer, the various specula, the hypodermatic syringe, the ophthalmoscope, the otoscope, the rhinoscope, the aspirator, and many other similar instruments; without the aid of hematology, of anesthetics, of antiseptics, of the modern microscope, without our laboratories and experiments, our chemistry, our bacteriology, our roentgen rays, our experimental pharmacology, and our antitoxins—without anything except his eyes, his ears, his fingers, his native vigor and resourcefulness; then we can appreciate the professional limitation of our fathers, appreciate no less the triumphal march of medicine during a single lifetime. It requires no prophet's power to foretell the fact that the science of medicine stands at this hour upon the threshold of an era which will belittle all the past. In this most wonderful era of the world's history, this magic age, the science of medicine is rapidly being elevated into the position of one of the bulwarks of society and one of the mainstays of civilization. It made possible the building of the Panama canal, made Havana a clean city, and diminished the possibility of introducing yellow fever among us. It has kept

cholera in check, pointed out the danger of bubonic plague through the rat-infested districts of San Francisco, and it now urges that the government shall maintain sentinels to guard the gulf coast from yellow fever, the Mississippi from cholera, the whole United States from bubonic plague. It also discovered the stegomyia as a yellow fever carrier, and the rat and ground squirrel as plague distributors.

The medical history of Mower county begins with J. C. Jones, who located in LeRoy township in the spring of 1855. His wife was also a physician. They remained until 1866 and then removed to Missouri.

AUSTIN.

The pioneer physician of Austin was that venerable practitioner of the kindly old school, Dr. Orlenzer Allen, who came in April, 1856, and practiced until 1870, when he removed to Wisconsin, where he lived until the time of his death, April 5, 1883. He was born at Alfred, New York, in 1830, and located in Wisconsin in 1842. His medical education was received at the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1856. Dr. Allen was an ideal country physician, kindly, self-sacrificing and able. His twin brother, Ormanzo, was also a prominent figure in Austin and Mower county in an early day. The next physician to locate in Austin was Dr. J. N. Wheat, a homeopath. He came in September, 1856. Dr. Wheat was born in Old Hadley, Massachusetts, January 16, 1818, spent his boyhood in New York and Ohio, and graduated in medicine at Buffalo in 1852. He became one of the foremost citizens of Mower county. Dr. S. P. Thornhill came in the winter of 1869-70. He was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, March 21, 1821, and studied medicine at West Carlisle, Ohio. He served as regimental and brigade surgeon in the Civil war, and subsequently came to Austin, where he died in 1879. Dr. Hiram L. Coon graduated from the Rush Medical College in 1855, came to Austin in 1856, remained a few years and then moved to Northfield. Dr. W. C. Jones came to Austin during the Civil war, practiced a few years and died about 1879. He was the father of B. F. Jones, at one time a newspaper editor and politician of Austin. Dr. W. L. Hollister came to Mower county in 1867, lived at Lansing a while, and then came to Austin in 1871. He still resides here. Dr. O. W. Gibson came to Austin in February, 1867. He was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, in 1839. During the Civil war he served in both army and navy as surgeon. Dr. James P. Squires came to Austin in 1873. He was born in Livingston county, New York, in 1825, and graduated in medicine at Buffalo, New York, in 1851. He was an army surgeon and came here from Faribault county, this state. Dr.

Thomas Phillips, a homeopath, came in May, 1882. He was born in Canada, graduated from the University of Chicago in 1880 and later from the Hahnemann Medical College in the same city. Dr. Ellen M. Fairbanks, wife of Alonzo Fairbanks, came to Austin with her husband in 1859. In 1881 she graduated from the Woman's Medical College at Chicago. A Dr. McDonald, a graduate of McGill University, Montreal, practiced here a few years in the early eighties. Dr. C. H. Johnson came to Austin, June 16, 1884. He was born in Canada, in 1855, graduated from McGill University, Montreal, and came here at once. With this the story of the earlier physicians of Austin ends, those coming since the middle eighties being numbered among the comparatively modern physicians of the city.

BROWNSDALE.

Brownsdale was the home of a number of physicians at an early day. Dr. Hunter came to Brownsdale in the fall of 1871 and died the following year. Dr. Eryhmy came from Preston, Minnesota, in the spring of 1871 and remained until the spring of 1874, when he went to California, where he died a few years later. Dr. Bidell, another early physician, stayed in this county a year or so, either in Brownsdale or Grand Meadow, and then went to the Dakotas. He was a graduate of the Chicago Medical school. Dr. A. S. Britz came in 1876 and stayed until 1880. He was born in Indiana, March 1, 1844, served in the Civil war, and graduated in medicine at Chicago. After leaving here he went to Clearwater, Minnesota. Dr. Hall came from Preston in 1876 and after remaining a few months went to Lake City. Dr. Minkler, who graduated in medicine in Canada, came here in 1875, but in a short time returned to Wisconsin. Dr. Dodd, a graduate of the Rush Medical College, Chicago, came in 1880. In 1882, owing to failing health, he went to California, where he died. Dr. David Kyto, who had graduated in medicine at Indianapolis, practiced here a short time in 1883. Dr. C. S. Beaulieu came in 1880; Dr. Gray in 1883; Dr. Johnson in 1884; and Dr. Foward in 1884. Dr. G. W. Gray was born in 1851 and came to Minnesota in 1877, practicing in Grand Meadow until 1883, when he came to Brownsdale. Dr. Frank M. Johnson was born in Wisconsin in 1854. He graduated from the Rush Medical College in the class of 1882, and came to Brownsdale in the fall of 1883.

DEXTER.

Dr. R. Simmons was the first physician in Dexter. He came in 1873, remained a few years, then returned to Indiana, his

former home. He was a graduate of the Cincinnati Medical College. The next physician to locate here was L. D. Johnson, who afterward moved to Grand Meadow. Dr. McCormick practiced here for a while and then moved to the Dakotas.

GRAND MEADOW.

The first physician at this point was Dr. Samuel Jenks, who came in 1872. He was a native of New York, and a graduate of Rush Medical College, Chicago, class of 1872. He was a well educated successful physician. He remained till 1880, when he moved to the Dakotas. The second physician was Dr. Wilder, who came in the fall of 1876, and was associated with Dr. Jenks, both in practice and in the drug business. He removed to Iowa City in 1878. He came from Wisconsin and was not a regular graduate in his profession. Dr. O. A. Case came to Grand Meadow in 1877. He removed from here in 1878. Dr. Remington came in the winter of 1881 and left the following summer. Dr. L. D. Jackson located in Grand Meadow in March, 1879. He was born in Vermont in 1851, and graduated from the Rush Medical College in 1877. Upon coming to this county he practiced in Dexter before coming to Grand Meadow.

ROSE CREEK.

Dr. Obadiah Wheelock, the first physician in Rose Creek, was born in New York in 1828, graduated in medicine at New York, and came to Rose Creek in 1872. He belonged to the eclectic school.

LANSING.

Dr. Josef Alloys was the first to practice medicine in Lansing. He came in 1857 and settled in section one. He was a Catholic priest, and combined the duties of priest, physician and farmer. He moved from here to Chicago. Dr. R. Soule came in 1865. His career is told elsewhere. Dr. Lafayette, a Frenchman, came to Lansing from Red Wing, in the fall of 1866. He was of the eclectic practice. After remaining here three years he went to Missouri.

LE ROY.

Dr. Jones came here from Pennsylvania in 1855, and settled on the Joe Mason farm. When Dr. Alsdorff came he gave up practice and in 1866 went to Missouri, where he took up farming. Dr. G. M. Alsdorff, an eclectic, came to LeRoy in 1864. He was born in Pennsylvania, November 24, 1824, and there remained



A. E. HENSLIN, M. D.



C. C. LECK, M. D.

until coming to Minnesota. When the new village was laid out, in 1867, Dr. Alsdorff opened an office, and the following year moved to the new location. Dr. Bingham, a graduate of the Rush Medical College at Chicago, practiced for a short time and then went to Lanesboro, where he died of smallpox. Dr. E. J. Kingsbury came from Decorah in 1869. He was born in New York state in 1832, and in 1854 graduated from the American Medical Institute at Cincinnati. In 1855 he came to Mower county, preempted land in Bennington township, assisted in the organization of the town and became a prominent citizen. Subsequently he practiced in Spring Valley and Decorah before coming to LeRoy. Dr. Corbitt came from Michigan in 1868, and remained here at intervals until his death in 1880. He was an allopath, and graduated in medicine at New York. Dr. C. W. Thrall came here from Wisconsin and entered into partnership with Dr. Kingsbury. He was a regular and a graduate of the Rush Medical College, Chicago. From here he went to LaCrosse. In the spring of 1880, Dr. F. C. Davy came here and became a partner of Dr. Alsdorff. After leaving here he attained considerable distinction as a chemist. In the spring of 1881, Dr. Aldenkirk, a homeopath, came here. Later he went to Iowa.

LYLE.

The first physician to locate in Lyle was Dr. A. Truane, who came in 1870. He moved from Lyle to Wisconsin. Dr. Tanner, a homeopath, came in 1870, and made a short stay. In 1881, Dr. M. G. Gordon, of Montreal, located here. He remained but a short time.

MOWER COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

In the preceding paragraphs has been related the story of the early physicians of Mower county. The present-day physicians are nobly following in their predecessors' footsteps. The Mower County Medical Association was organized October 3, 1902. The meeting was called to order by Dr. W. S. Fullerton, state organizer, and Dr. C. A. Hegge, the former being made temporary chairman and the latter temporary secretary. The officers elected were: President, William Hollister; vice president, W. F. Cobb; secretary, C. A. Hegge; treasurer, G. F. Schottler. The physicians present at the organization were: A. W. Allen, O. H. Hegge, C. A. Hegge, William Hollister, W. H. McKenna, F. Kimball Fiester, C. F. Lewis, H. F. Pierson, E. H. Washburn-Rodgers, O. C. Mareklien, George W. Gray, G. J. Schottler, W. W. Freeman, W. F. Cobb and W. A. Frazer. Since then the presidents have been: 1903.

William Cobb; 1904, A. E. Henslin; 1905, H. F. Pierson; 1906, G. J. Schottler; 1907, W. A. Frazer; 1908, C. C. Leck; 1909, M. J. Hart; 1910, C. F. Lewis. The society has done much to sustain the ethics of the profession, to promote the sanitation of the county, to protect the health of the community and to guard against charlatanry in all guises and forms. The society is now constituted as follows: President, C. F. Lewis; secretary, Clifford C. Leck, Austin; other members, A. W. Allen, Austin; W. F. Cobb, Lyle; A. N. Collins, Austin; W. A. Frazer, Lyle; G. W. Gray, Brownsdale; M. J. Hart, LeRoy; C. H. Hegge, Austin; O. H. Hegge, Austin; A. E. Henslin, LeRoy; C. H. Johnson, Austin; R. S. Mitchell, Grand Meadow; Homer F. Pierson, Austin; G. M. F. Rogers, Austin; G. J. Schottler, Dexter; E. V. Smith, Adams; P. T. Torkelson, Lyle.

Other physicians in the county are: F. E. Daigneau, Austin; W. H. McKenna, Austin; Alb. Plummer, Racine; C. B. Lynde, Rose Creek, and H. L. Baker, Waltham.

CHAPTER XXVI.

CIVIL WAR HISTORY.

Outbreak of the War—The First War Meeting in Mower County—Newspaper Clippings of Stirring War Events—List of Veterans Who Enlisted from Mower County, with History of Their Regiments—Honor Roll of Mower County Heroes Who Laid Down Their Lives for the Union—Col. Henry C. Rogers and His Record.—By Col. A. W. Wright.

When President Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 of the militia of the several states to maintain the Union April 15, 1861, Mower county was but six years of age, as an organized county, and had a population of less than 3,500, all pioneers in a new state which became a part of the Union less than three years before the outbreak of the war. It was a cruel time to take the men from field, store, shop and home. They had little on which to depend save the labor of their hands, and their families needed them. But an attack had been made on Fort Sumter, the flag of the Union had been fired upon, and the hearts of these hardy patriotic men and women were fired.

At this time Alexander Ramsey, governor of Minnesota, chanced to be in Washington and immediately sought Secretary

Cameron, and in writing tendered 1,000 soldiers from Minnesota in defense of the government, which offer was presented to the president and by him accepted. The governor telegraphed these facts to the adjutant general of the state, with orders to make a call for troops. The call, however, did not reach Mower county in time for any of her sons to be included in the first regiment, except Allen Mollison, who is believed to have been the first man to enlist from Mower county.

The people were busy breaking farms and building homes and villages, and the magnitude of the secession movement was not realized. While the Minnesota Courier, the only paper published in Mower county, was filled with war news in every issue, the vital need of men to defend the union did not strike home to Mower county men until the fall. The Courier of May 8, 1861, contained the information that about twenty-five of the young men of Austin and vicinity had enrolled their names in response to their country's call, but no names were given in the published article. In June of that year, H. B. Kimball, Fred McCormick and William Mills enlisted in the Mantorville company.

The first real war meeting in Mower county was held at "Headquarters," September 4, 1861. At about the same time Captain White, of Freeborn county, was in Austin, with the proposition that if Mower county could not raise a full company that the two counties unite. However, it was decided that Mower county could raise a full company, and the meeting for this purpose was accorded much enthusiasm. The meeting was called to order by Ormanzo Allen, and Milo Frary was elected chairman. On motion of L. A. Sherwood, B. F. Jones was named as secretary. Capt. R. P. Mooers made a speech, and on his motion a committee of ways and means was appointed as follows: W. B. Spencer, J. W. Fake, J. P. Jones, G. W. Bishop, Ormanzo Allen, S. W. Bostwick, J. Stewart, A. D. Brown, H. H. Heartley, George Conkey, E. S. Moodey and John Rowley. Ormanzo Allen, J. W. Fake and G. W. Bishop were appointed a central county committee, and J. W. Fake was empowered to procure speakers to make a tour of the county. The following recruiting officers were appointed: R. P. Mooers, Lyle; J. P. Jones, Nevada; W. B. Spencer, LeRoy; G. W. Bishop, Austin; Lewis Hardy, Frankford; J. W. Stewart, Racine; A. D. Brown, Red Rock; A. J. Clark, Brownsdale; H. C. Rogers, Udolpho; H. Hartley, Lansing; W. Reed, Pleasant Valley; H. Irgins, Adams.

As a result of this meeting a military company was raised and a meeting of the volunteers held October 13, 1861. B. F. Jones was elected chairman, and R. P. Mooers, secretary. The company was authorized to elect a first lieutenant, and the first ballot resulted in eighteen votes for W. B. Spencer, ten for G. W.

Bishop, and one for R. P. Moores. On the next ballot, Mr. Spencer was elected over G. W. Bishop by a vote of 22 to 8.

On the morning of Tuesday, October 15, 1861, the military company that was afterwards known as the Mower County Guards, Co. K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, left Austin, thirty-two strong, with the intention of joining the Third Regiment at Fort Snelling. Before departing the boys were addressed by Rev. Stephen Cook. The personnel of the company was as follows: First lieutenant, W. B. Spencer; privates, R. P. Mooers, P. E. Jenks, George Carrier, William Gifford, Henry Loomis, William Pace, Robert P. Tift, Marion Lyle, A. C. Smith, James Morrison, A. J. Clark, Augustus Rose, Thomas Edelman, Samuel Parks, James Gray, Samuel Shutz, I. N. Morrill, George Mail, V. W. Houghton, T. J. Bishop, W. H. Bullock, Brayden Lincoln, John Frank, Samuel Surface, Horace Barber, S. C. Matthews, H. B. Bourgard, E. R. Earl, Eugene Parmeter, Nathan M. Thomas and Solomon Tallaman. Of the above I. N. Morrill and Hon. John Frank, at least, are still living.

During the week of October 23, 1861, several of the men came home on parole, five or six of them being under age, and seeking the written permission of their parents or guardians. At about this time the company was increased by the enlistment of Charles Hunt, George Baird, Caleb Powers, William Whitford, Charles Smith, Samuel Clayton and A. C. Houghton. The name Mower County Guards was given by General Sanborn.

September 10, 1862, the Mower County Rangers had been organized, transferred to the Seventh Regiment and sent against the Indians. The original officers were: Captain, H. C. Rogers; first lieutenant, E. W. Ford; second lieutenant, L. A. Sherwood; orderly sergeant, M. Whitford.

On October 15, 1862, a letter was received in Austin from Captain Mooers of Co. K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, announcing the battle of Iuka, September 20, and the wounding of George S. Hutchinson, Aaron B. Morse, Isaac Dezotell, John E. McCun, Saul M. Milhollin and Martin Kiefer. On October 3, 1862, before this letter reached Austin, Captain Mooers was killed at the Battle of Corinth. He was born in New York, came west in 1855, and gave up his profession as an engineer for farming in Lyle township. He was commissioned captain of the Mower County Guards and killed in action.

January 6, 1863, the county commissioners divided Mower county into eight military districts as follows: 1—Adams and Nevada. 2—Lyle, Windom and Austin. 3—Lansing. 4—Red Rock and Udolpho. 5—Pleasant Valley and Grand Meadow. 6—Racine. 7—Frankford and Bennington. 8—LeRoy.

May 12, 1863, the military election under the military act took

place at Brownsdale, and resulted as follows: Colonel, B. F. Langworthy, Grand Meadow; lieutenant colonel, P. G. Lamoreaux, of Lansing; major, Ormanzo Allen of Austin.

NEWS CLIPPINGS.

The newspapers of the period give us a true picture of conditions during the Civil war, and for that reason the following clippings relating to war affairs are here reproduced:

Minnesota Courier.—September 4, 1861. Contrabands in Town. On Friday last we learn that two negroes—fugitives from Missouri—passed through town on their way to Canada. They were mounted on horses, which they took from their masters to assist them on their journey. Those who saw them say they were fine looking fellows, and worth, perhaps, in Missouri from eight to twelve hundred dollars each.

November 27, 1861. Flag for Mower County Guards. The material was purchased in St. Paul by Mrs. B. F. Lindsey and Mrs. J. L. Clark, is all silk, and is said by the lady who made it up, and who has furnished several other companies, to be the finest one and manufactured of the best materials. The Guards promised to send it down by some of the company during the winter provided they remained at the fort and were not ordered south. On receiving the flag Mr. Martin, on behalf of the company, Captain Mooers being absent, received the flag and returned the thanks of the company in a brief and appropriate speech, which was responded to by the company with three rousing cheers for the ladies of Austin, and the burning of the usual amount of powder. We think it no more than right that the ladies, who have given their time and energy in raising the money, by soliciting subscriptions to furnish the company with a flag, should at least receive a passing notice from us, and the thanks of our lady friends generally. We are of the opinion that if Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Lindsey had not taken the matter in hand, our company would today have been without a flag. They have done their part well, and from what we know of the ladies of Austin they will not soon be forgotten. The cost of the flag was \$16.98.

August 6, 1862. Volunteering and Being Drafted. A volunteer receives the full bounty—\$25 advance bounty, one month's pay (\$13) in advance, and \$75 at the end of his time of service, together with the usual 160 acres of bounty land. Besides all this his family receives pecuniary assistance during his absence. The drafted militia receive but \$11 per month, and no money bounty. They can be held to service out of the state three months by order of the governor. Let no one, however, deceive

himself with the idea that drafted soldiers will serve only three months, for after the militia are drafted, Congress can easily hold them to serve during the war.

August 13, 1862. "Private Bounty. Grand Meadow, August 7, 1862. I will give to every volunteer that may join any company now forming in this county from Pleasant Valley, Grand Meadow, Racine, Frankford and LeRoy, a bounty of \$2 for single men, and to every married man five bushels of wheat for the use of his family, extra. Volunteering to be from this date to August 31. Respectfully, B. F. Langworthy."

August 20, 1862. The citizens of Adams township have raised by private subscription, \$142, to be paid in cash on or before two months, provided, however, this bounty will prevent drafting in Adams township.

Capt. E. W. Ford left this place on Saturday last for Fort Snelling with upwards of seventy men, all from this county, to be mustered into the United States service under the call for 600,000 men. Mower county will furnish her quota without resorting to a draft. On Sunday last four more started for the fort to join Mr. Ford's company, and we hear of several others who are ready to go, provided they can get into the company from this county.

The war meetings which have just been held at Austin, Frankford and Brownsdale were well attended, and the result is that Mower county has almost raised her quota. The three towns above named we believe are now exempt from the draft. The town of Lansing is awake and will this week, in all probability, raise the quota of that town. It is time for the other towns to be looking out if they expect to escape the draft.

September 3, 1862. The draft is postponed until October 3.
* * * When we get the 600,000 men into the field who are now organizing for the war, thus swelling our grand army to over a million, we can sweep the rebels from the face of the earth in a month or two. We can then form a solid column of bayonets and cannon, reaching almost from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and by one determined "forward march," drive all the traitors and rebels down into the gulf, like a drove of frightened swine. It will be a privilege to belong to that great army of the Union—a glorious thing to think of and talk about after the war, and for your children to be proud over through coming generations. "I was a soldier in the army of the Union that saved the Republic," will be as proud a title to the respect of your countrymen and of the world, as now is the claim of those few remaining veterans who can say, "I was a soldier in the army of the Revolutionary war, and fought under Washington."

Mower County Register. March 2, 1865. The draft hangs by a hair! At any moment it may descend upon us. How shall we avoid it? By going into the army in person or by proxy; by going ourselves or sending substitutes. Where volunteering goes on briskly, the draft will not reach; where volunteering ceases, the conscription will be ordered to commence. Rouse, then, and let us make every exertion, and exert every energy for the recruiting of our army. By sundry alterations at the Provost Marshal's office, the town of Austin has to furnish under the last call for 300,000 thirteen men. We learn further that movements are now progressing for the purpose of raising a town bounty as an inducement to volunteer.

July 21, 1864. News from the boys of Company C, Ninth regiment: Through the kindness of Mrs. Stephen Chandler we have been shown a letter from her husband, which enables us to secure knowledge of the whereabouts of our liberty-defending patriots. Mr. Chandler is a prisoner in Meridan, Mississippi. Those of Company C yet prisoners are: Capt. E. W. W. Ford, A. Avery, J. Clark, William Breckon, Ludoviso Bourgard, A. Wheeler, Duane Philes, C. Steward, J. Woodbury, S. H. Ames, W. Lyons, Conrad W. McCaskill, I. Bisgrove, E. Rice, W. Rice, C. D. Rhodes, T. H. B. Vandegrift, John Barnett and Stephen N. Chandler.

January 28, 1864. Promotions. The following worthy promotions have been made in the Fourth regiment: First Lieutenant S. T. Isaac to be captain; First Lieutenant D. L. Wellman to be captain; First Lieutenant C. C. Hunt to be captain; Second Lieutenants Orlando Graham and S. W. Russell to be first lieutenants; Orderly Sergeant C. W. Douglass to be second lieutenant.

In the same issue the announcement is made that Co. K, of the Fourth Minnesota regiment, has re-enlisted for "three years or during the war"—every man except two. The following is a list of members who re-enlisted: Captain—Charles C. Hunt. First Lieutenant—C. W. Douglass. Sergeants—Geo. Baird, Marion R. Lyle, V. W. Houghton, Samuel M. Clayton. Corporals—R. S. Perkins, Stephen Maxon, John Mullen, S. E. Morse, A. M. Kenniston. Privates—W. H. H. Bullock, Henry B. Burgor, F. H. Belot, N. Barnes, A. Chapel, Jacob H. Epler, N. Frost, McConnell Fitch, John Frank, A. C. Hursh, A. O. Hollister, P. E. Jenks, M. Kiefer, W. S. Kimball, S. Mathews, C. Powers, E. A. Parker, John Rochford, S. Giff, Geo. Thernott, Solomon Tallman, E. A. Whitcomb, O. H. Wiley. Up to this time, January, 1864, Mower county has furnished 275 men for the service. Geo. Baird became first lieutenant of the company, and for a considerable time had command of the company.

PRECIOUS RELIC.

Mower county has a precious relic in the shape of a battle-stained flag, carried through the Civil war by the valiant Co. K, of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. Many Mower county people contributed for its purchase, and the silk was obtained in St. Paul by Mrs. B. F. Lindsey and Mrs. J. L. Clark, who went to St. Paul by stage to buy a flag, but finding none purchased silk ribbon and made one. It was presented to the company at Fort Snelling, before the regiment was ordered south. Following are the names of the men and women who contributed to the purchase of the flag: F. D. Lewis, Fernald Morgan, William Simpson, L. A. Sherwood, Ian Osdel, H. Sutherland, J. L. Smith, L. Stone, M. Graves, E. Chapin; the Mesdames G. W. Bishop, R. L. Kimball, S. W. Paul, E. Parliman, J. S. Lacy, J. Bodine, J. Stage, H. Allen, O. Allen, S. Smith, L. Hunt, G. W. Mitchell, J. L. Davidson, H. I. Holt, W. W. Cook, J. H. McIntire, W. Brown, H. Jacobs, W. L. Kimball, Q. E. Truesdell, George Baird, J. B. Niles, Wm. Hunt, E. W. Ford, L. Piper, A. Galloway, D. B. Johnson, R. O. Hunt, B. F. Jones, O. Allen, E. D. Fenton, G. M. Cameron, O. Somers, T. J. Lake, L. N. Griffith, A. S. Everest, J. C. Ackerly, J. W. Fake, C. J. Shortt, J. B. Yates, G. H. Bemis, B. F. Lindsay, J. L. Clark, and the Misses Hattie Adams, Philenda Deming, A. J. Wheat, A. B. Albro, Lizzie Johnson, A. Loomis.

The flag was carried through the following engagements: 1862—Siege of Corinth, Mississippi, May; Battle of Iuka, Mississippi, September 19; Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, October 3 and 4. 1863—Port Gibson, Mississippi, May 1; Forty Hills, Mississippi, May 3; Raymond, Mississippi, May 12; Jackson, Mississippi, May 14; Champion Hills, Mississippi; Vicksburg, May and June; Mission Ridge, Tennessee, November 24 and 25. 1864—Altoona, Georgia, October 5; Savannah, December. 1865—Columbia, South Carolina, February 17; Bentonville, North Carolina, March 20 and 21; Raleigh, North Carolina, April 14. Upon the company being mustered out of the service, this flag was placed in the keeping of Lieut. Geo. Baird by a vote of the company as a token of the regard of the members of the company for him, for many of whom he had been a personal friend, adviser and comforter, also because of his conspicuous gallantry and bravery in the field.

FALL OF VICKSBURG.

When the news of the fall of Vicksburg was received at Austin, a grand jubilee meeting was held at Headquarters hall, on the evening of July 10, 1863. J. H. C. Wilson was called to the chair, and T. J. Lake appointed secretary. Speeches were

made by Revs. Parker, Tice, Clark and Lake, also by Colonel Lewis, of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin, who had just returned from the "seat of war," and Judge Ormanzo Allen. Colonel Lewis' speech was most interesting. Fresh from the army and having endured all the hardships of the war, he could talk as soldiers only can talk on such occasions, and his remarks produced the wildest enthusiasm. He closed by saying "Copperheadism is worse than secession among the soldiers. When his comrades found he was coming north, each said, "Kill a copperhead for us!" Amid much enthusiasm the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That the soldiers of the Minnesota Fourth, always in the advance, and always victorious, have achieved for themselves honor and glory worth more than all the achievements that can be possibly made by the greatest and most distinguished civilian in the land, in the capture of Vicksburg—the Sebastopol of Rebeldom."

ROLL OF HONOR.

In this connection has been compiled from the adjutant-general's report, the names of the soldiers, who enlisted from Mower county. If any are omitted, it is not intentional, for great care has been exercised in collecting this matter, and none have greater veneration for the brave soldier than the compilers of this volume. As the only possible way to ascertain the whereabouts of each soldier, is to depend upon the official reports as published under authority of the state, any mistakes in spelling names or the omission of them entirely, should be charged to such official reports.

Mower county was represented in the Union army as follows:

FIRST INFANTRY.

Allan Mollison, so far as known the only member of this regiment from Mower county, enlisted in Company G. When the call came for volunteers, Allan Mollison was a blacksmith in Austin, and the sole support of a widowed mother. He walked alone to Owatonna and there joined others. Then all walked to Faribault, to enlist in a company raised by Captain McCune. They marched thence to Fort Snelling and Mollison was mustered into service as a private in Company G, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, on his twenty-fifth birthday, April 29, 1861. He was afterward promoted to corporal.

The First Regiment was hurried on to Washington, and took part in the first Battle of Bull Run. It was here that Mr. Mollison first showed that daring which made him the idol of his company. In the retreat of the regiment, Captain McCune was shot

down. The regiment reformed later and the battle was resumed. Between the firing lines lay the wounded captain. Volunteers were called to go out amid the hail of bullets and bring back the captain. At once, Allan Mollison, the sturdy blacksmith, responded. He ran out across the shot-torn field, raised the wounded captain, and brought him safely to his company. The wound received by Captain McCune was a fatal one, however.

Mr. Mollison saw as much real war as any man in the army. The battles of the First Minnesota are a part of the history of the nation, and in them all he took his share. He was at Balls Bluff, where General Baker was killed, went through the peninsular campaign with McClellan, and fought at South Mountain, Antietam, the Wilderness and Gettysburg. After Gettysburg he was transferred to the First United States Cavalry, was in General Grant's campaign as far as Cold Harbor, and accompanied General Sheridan in his raid through the Shenandoah valley. He was wounded five times and was a prisoner at the rebel prison of Belle Island for three weeks. He served three years and four months. He was born in Airdrie, Scotland, April 29, 1836, and died at Austin, Minnesota, July 6, 1906. His brother Thomas was killed in the Union service and his brother Edwin served and was killed as a colonel in the Rebel cavalry.

SECOND INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized in July, 1861, and originally commanded by Horatio Van Cleve. Ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, in October, 1861, and assigned to the Army of the Ohio. It was engaged in the following marches, battles, skirmishes and sieges, viz.: Mill Spring, January 19, 1862; siege of Corinth, in April, 1862, then transferred to the Army of the Tennessee; Bragg's Raid, Perryville, October 8, 1862; skirmishes of the Tullahoma campaign, Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863; Mission Ridge, November 28, 1863. Veteranized in January, 1864, and participated in the battles and skirmishes of the Atlanta campaign, viz.: Resaca, June 14, 15 and 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864; Jonesboro; Sherman's March through Georgia and the Carolinas, and Bentonville, March 19, 1865. The men were mustered out at Louisville, Ky., and discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, July 11, 1865. This regiment covered itself with laurels at the battle of Mission Ridge, where they were badly cut up in a charge they made on the enemy's works. Few Minnesota regiments, if any, performed more long and laborious marches than the "Bloody Second."

Company A—Sergeant H. G. Case.

Company B—Originally commanded by Captain William

Markham; mustered into the service of the United States, for three years, on June 26, 1861, by Capt. A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. Privates—Daniel Ames, Henry Peck.

Company C—Originally commanded by Capt. Peter Mantor, mustered into the United States' service June 26, 1861, by Capt. A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. First lieutenant—William T. Mills. Privates—Headly B. Kimball, George H. Ames, Robert A. Dermin, William J. Johnson, Frederick McCormick, Edwin R. Morrill, Asaph Mayo, Edwin Frazier, Nelson C. Frazier, Philander Scheffield.

Company H—Francis Neller.

THIRD INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized in October, 1861, and originally commanded by Col. Henry C. Lester, of Winona. Ordered to Nashville, Tennessee, in March, 1862. Captured and paroled at Murfreesboro in July, 1862. Ordered to St. Louis, Missouri, thence to Minnesota. Engaged in the Indian expedition in 1862. Participated in the battle of Wood Lake in September, 1862. Ordered to Little Rock, Arkansas, in November, 1863. Veteranized in January, 1864. Engaged in battle of Fitzhugh's Woods, March 30, 1864. Ordered to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in April, 1864; thence to Duvall's Bluff September 2, 1865. Mustered out at Duvall's Bluff September 2, 1865. Discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

On account of the ill-advised surrender of the regiment at Murfreesboro, a number of the officers were dismissed from the service, which partially demoralized portions of it, and they were sent north to guard the frontier. Their lack of experience in the arts of war had more to do with the surrender than lack of courage, as the regiment subsequently proved by their behavior on the field of battle.

Company C—Originally commanded by Capt. John R. Bennett, was mustered in service October 25, 1861, A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. First lieutenant—Lewis Hardy. Sergeant—William F. Grummons. Corporal—George McKay.

Company F—J. H. DeReamer.

Company I—Private—Andrew J. Clark.

Company K—Private—Oscar Haws.

FOURTH REGIMENT INFANTRY.

This regiment was originally commanded by Col. J. B. Sanborn, of St. Paul, organized December 23, 1861; ordered to Benton Barracks, Missouri, April 19, 1862; assigned to army of the Mississippi, May 4, 1862, participated in the following marches, battles, sieges and skirmishes: Siege of Corinth, April,

1862; Iuka, September 19, 1862; Corinth, October 3 and 4, 1862; siege of Vicksburg, Forty Hills, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, assault on Vicksburg, capture of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. Transferred from Seventeenth to Fifteenth corps; Mission Ridge, November 25, 1863; veteranized, January, 1864; Altoona, October, 1864; Sherman's march through Georgia and the Carolinas; Bentonville, March 20, 1865, and Raleigh, April 14, 1865; mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, July 19, 1865; discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

Company A—Originally commanded by Capt. Luther B. Baxter, was mustered into service October 4, 1861, by A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. Captains—Charles W. Douglass, Charles C. Hunt (Company G). First lieutenants—Ira N. Morrill, George Baird. Second lieutenants—A. E. Wood, W. B. Spencer.

Company E—Originally commanded by Capt. Ebenezer LeGro, was mustered into service November 27, 1861. Corporal—Elijah F. Armstrong. Privates—Austin Rosenburgh, Harrison H. Hartley.

Company F—Originally commanded by Capt. Asa W. White, was mustered into service October 11, 1861. Privates—Nathan M. Thomas, John McCaskel.

Company I—Private—Ashley Cameron.

Company K—Originally commanded by Capt. Robert P. Mooers, was mustered into the United States service for three years, December 23, 1861, by Capt. A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. Captain—Robert P. Mooers. Second lieutenant—W. B. Spencer. First Sergeants—Ira N. Morrill, Charles C. Hunt, George Carrier, Marion Lyle, George W. Bishop. Corporals—John E. Hussey, Samuel B. Rolfe, George Mail, Alonzo C. Houghton, Samuel Surface, John Frank, Vincent B. Lincoln. Musicians—William B. Whitford, James Davis. Wagoner—Ambrose C. Smith. Privates—Thomas I. Bishop, W. H. H. Bullock, George Baird, William H. Bogart, Asa B. Carlton, Nathaniel Trost, James Guy, Thomas Greene, George S. Hutchinson, Horace Barber, Henry Bugor, Israel Baker, Samuel M. Clayton, Ethan R. Earl, Harvey B. Earl, William H. Gifford, Virgil W. Hughton, Plympton E. Jenks, Wilbur S. Kimball, Asa C. Lawrence, James Morrison, Stephen Maxon, Samuel E. Morse, William M. Pace, Caleb Powers, Robert S. Perkins, Samuel Shutz, Robert T. Tift, Sylvanus Woodworth, Miles M. Trowbridge, E. A. Whitcomb, Stephen Tift, Henry Loomis, Samuel Loomis, Samuel J. Mathews, John Mullin, Joseph F. Owen, Samuel Parks, Eugene E. Parmenter, Joseph H. Reed, Charles Shuler, Solomon Tollman, Peter G. Mills, W. C. Sommers, Ole S. Oleson, Edwin A. Parker, Sherwin Clow, Jacob H. Epler, Abram O. Hollister.

FIFTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized in May, 1862, and originally commanded by Col. Rudolph Borgesrode, of Shakopee. Ordered to Pittsburg Landing, May 9, 1862, leaving a detachment of three companies in Minnesota, garrisoning frontier posts. Participated in the following marches, battles, sieges and skirmishes: Siege of Corinth, April and May, 1862. The detachment in Minnesota engaged with the Indians at Redwood, Minnesota, August 18, 1862, and siege of Fort Ridgely, August 20, 21 and 22, 1862; Fort Abercrombie, Dakota Territory, in August, 1862. The regiment was assigned to the Sixteenth Army Corps and engaged in the battle of Iuka, September 18, 1862, and at Corinth, October 3 and 4, 1862; Jackson, May 14, 1863; and the siege of Vicksburg; assault of Vicksburg, May 22, 1863; Mechanicsburg, June 3, 1863; Richmond, June 15, 1863; Fort De Russey, Louisiana, March 14, 1864; Red River expedition in March, April and May, 1864; Lake Chicot, June 6, 1864, and Tupelo in June, 1864. Veteranized in July, 1864; Abbeyville, August 23, 1864; marched in September, 1864, from Brownsville, Arkansas, to Cape Girardeau, Missouri, thence by boat to Jefferson City; thence to Kansas state line; thence to St. Louis, Missouri; ordered to Nashville, November, 1864; battle of Nashville, December 15 and 16, 1864; Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely in April, 1865; mustered out at Demopolis, Alabama, September 6, 1865, and discharged at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. It will be seen by the above record this regiment was in active service, yet comparatively very few were killed in battle.

Company B. Originally commanded by John S. Marsh, was mustered into service March 24, 1862, for three years. Private—Webster G. Andrews.

Company F. E. L. Merry.

Company H. Originally commanded by Capt. Otis S. Clark, was mustered into the service of the United States for three years on the 29th day of April, 1862, by Capt. A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. Privates—William F. Smith, Newton Anderson, Hans. Christianson, John P. Clark, Orlo F. White.

Company I. Originally commanded by Capt. Luther E. Clark, was mustered into service April 30, 1862, for three years, by Capt. A. D. Nelson, mustering officer. Second Lieutenant—Milton H. Pember. Privates—Calvin H. Patchin, Charles E. White.

SEVENTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was originally commanded by Col. Stephen Miller of St. Paul, afterwards governor of the state. It was organized in August, 1862, and ordered upon the Indian expedition

that year, and engaged in the battle of Wood Lake, Minnesota. The regiment was stationed at frontier posts until May, 1863, when it was ordered upon the Indian expedition in the West under General Sibley, and was engaged in battle with the Indians July 24, 26, 28, 30 and 31 of that year. They returned from this expedition and were ordered to St. Louis, Missouri, October 7, 1863; thence to Paducah, Kentucky, in April, 1864; thence to Memphis, Tennessee, and assigned to the sixteenth army corps, in June, 1864. The regiment participated in the following marches, battles, sieges and skirmishes: Tupelo, in July, 1864; Tallahatchie, August 7 and 8, 1864; the march in pursuit of Price from Brownsville, Arkansas, to Cape Girardeau; thence to St. Louis, Missouri; in the battles of Nashville, Tennessee, December 15 and 16, 1864; Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, in April, 1865. The discharge of the regiment took place at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, August 16, 1865.

Company D. Originally commanded by Capt. Rolla Banks, was mustered into the United States service for three years on the 30th day of October, 1862, by Lieut. E. Haight, mustering officer. First Lieutenant—Hardy Lewis. Corporal—Ferdinand Elder.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized August 1, 1862, and originally commanded by Col. Minor T. Thomas, of Stillwater, Minn. It was stationed at frontier posts until May, 1864, when it was ordered upon the Indian expedition. It was engaged in the following battles, sieges, skirmishes and marches: Tah-cha-o-ku-tu, July 28, 1864; Little Missouri, battle of the Cedars, Wilkinson's Pike, December 7, 1864; near Murfreesboro, December 8, 1864, and Overall's creek. Ordered to Clifton, Tenn., thence to Cincinnati, thence to Washington, thence to Newbern, N. C.; at the battle of Kingston, March 8, 9 and 10, 1865. The men were mustered out at Charlotte, N. C., July 11, 1865, and discharged at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Lieutenant-Colonel—Henry C. Rogers. Musician—Azariah H. Chapin.

NINTH INFANTRY.

This regiment was organized in August, 1862, and stationed at frontier posts until September, 1863, when they were ordered to St. Louis, Mo., and from there to Jefferson City, Mo., and distributed among several posts in the interior of the state. In May, 1864, they were ordered to St. Louis, and from there to Memphis, Tenn. They were engaged in the following battles, marches, sieges and skirmishes: Guntown expedition, August, 1864; Tallahatchie, August, 1864; marched in pursuit of Price from Browns-

ville, Ark., to Cape Girardeau, thence by boat to Jefferson City; thence to Kansas line; thence to St. Louis. They fought heroically in the battle of Nashville, December 15 and 16, 1864; also at Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely in April, 1865. They were discharged at Fort Snelling, Minn., August 24, 1865.

Company C—Originally commanded by Capt. Henry C. Rogers, was mustered into service for three years, October 5, 1862, by Lieut. E. Haight, mustering officer. Captains—Henry C. Rogers, Edwin W. Ford. First Lieutenants—Lyman A. Sherwood, Francis Merchant, Edwin W. Ford. Second Lieutenants—Lyman A. Sherwood, Benjamin I. Lindsey. First Sergeant—Marcius Whitford. Sergeants—Jeff. E. Davis, Benj. F. Lindsey, William T. Everingham, Francis Merchant. Corporals—Henry C. Sutherland, David O. Pratt, Thomas H. Vandergrift, John B. Sylvester, Byron A. Van House, Martin B. Johnson. Musician—Azariah C. Chapin. Wagoner—Joseph T. Hammond. Privates—John Arnold, Lewis E. Andrews, Alonzo Avery, Hartland S. Ames, Charles B. Adams, Benj. F. Bartholomew, Ludovico Beauregard, German C. Baldwin, Truman Butler, John Barnett, Charles N. Bostwick, George H. Bullard, Isaac Bisgrove, Daniel E. Bero,* James H. Carver, Edwin L. Clapp, Stephen N. Chandler, George W. Dunton, Samuel Emerson,* Joshua C. Epler, David F. M. Felch, Zara Frysbie, Carlton A. Geer, George W. Henderson, Henry L. Holt, John W. Hartley, V. B. Leathers, William N. Lent, Thomas J. Lake, Joseph Lamping, Noah McCain, William McCaskell, John L. Neller,* Duane Philes, Robert H. Phillip, Ira W. Padden, James Parmenter, Joshua T. Pye, Nathan Parmenter,* Isaac Peterman, John W. Quinn, Edson M. Rice, William W. Rice, John B. Revord, O. D. Rhodes, Francis Rafferty, Charles C. Stewart, Christopher Swanson, Edgar P. Spooner,* Robert W. Shook, Daniel D. Sargeant,* L. D. Stewart, Erastus Slocum, Oscar L. Tanner, John A. Thompson,* James M. Tanner, Archibald Taylor, Benjamin Vaughan,* Daniel B. Vaughan,* James C. Vail, John Watkins, Jr.,* Arad Welch, Adial Wilcox, Siloam Williams, Evans Watkins,* James N. Woodbury, Augustus Whitney, William Brecken, S. W. Rice.*

Company E—Private—Hiram Cummings.

*The star following name indicates that the soldier is still living.

BRACKETT'S BATTALION CAVALRY.

Companies 1, 2 and 3 were organized in October and November, 1861. They were ordered to Benton Barracks, Mo., December, 1864, and assigned to a regiment called Curtis' Horse. They were ordered to Fort Henry, Tenn., in February, 1862. The name of the regiment was finally changed to the Fifth Iowa Cavalry, the

Minnesota companies being Companies G, D and K. They engaged in the siege before Corinth, in April, 1862. In 1864 they were ordered to the Department of the Northwest, and there engaged in an Indian expedition. They were mustered out by companies between May and June, 1866.

Company C—Private—George Corell.

Company D—Sergeant—John W. Farquar (still living). Saddler—Joseph H. Sticke. Privates—Samuel J. Bacon, Charles Bell, Daniel B. Cowles, Robert Headfint, Harry Hunter, Calvin Huntley, B. Kenneday, James Mulann, William Pye, Jr., Charles Smith, William Saddler, Simon Vargarson.

SECOND MINNESOTA CAVALRY.

This regiment was organized in January, 1864, and ordered out on an Indian expedition in the month of May. They had several engagements with the Indians in July and August of that year. They were stationed at frontier posts until they were mustered out by companies, between November, 1865, and June, 1866.

Company A—Originally commanded by Capt. John R. Jones. Privates—Eli Leonard, Freeman Leonard. Corporal—Henry B. Corey.

Company B—Originally commanded by Capt. B. F. Jones. Captain—Lewis J. Patch. First Lieutenant—Richard O. Hunt.* Commissary Sergeant—Wm. W. Catherwood. Sergeants—Thomas B. Merrill, Rochester J. Eyles, Herman L. Burgess, Ezra Bacon. Corporals—John N. Rosenburg, Lester Van House, Samuel Sommers, Herman L. Burgess, C. P. Bell, Freeman A. Carll.* John E. Robinson. Farrier—Mark Johnson. Saddler—Edmond S. Wells. Trumpeters—Luman Carter* and Daniel J. Butts. Privates—Timothy B. Andrews, Roy Anderson, Ardol H. Bush, Alvin C. Blackeslee, George A. Carter, R. J. Cropland, Artemus H. Colwell, Harding A. Colwell, Silas Dutcher, Jr.,* Samuel Daniels, Orson A. Dickinson, Thomas Ellis, William H. Earl, Charles C. Emerson, Henry Fitch, Simeon Gifford, Henry Hollingshead, T. L. Johnson, Hans Jergeson, Edgar L. Jones, Edmund W. Kirk, Horace Kennison, John Parker, Charles M. Perkins, John Ryan, Samuel C. Robb, Thomas Rhomes, John C. Ruland, Charles C. Sargent, Charles Whitney, John Osborn, George W. Varco, Harcor Lyons.

*Star indicates soldier is still living.

Company C—Captain—Aaron S. Everest. Privates—Martin Boland, William Moran, Ole Sjurson, H. M. F. Irgens, Peder Johansen, George Parker, George Thompson.

Company D—Originally commanded by Capt. James N. Payne. Saddler—Alexander Marsh.

FIRST HEAVY ARTILLERY.

This regiment was organized in April, 1865, and originally commanded by Col. William Colville, of Red Wing; ordered to Chattanooga, Tenn., and stationed at that point until mustered out of regiment in September, 1865.

Battery B — Privates — Johannas Boryeson, Jacob Jacobson, Charles E. Hancock, George W. Stevens.

SHARPSHOOTERS.

First Company—Private—Robert Crippen.

FIRST REGIMENT MOUNTED RANGERS.

Organized in March, 1863, and originally commanded by Col. Samuel McPhail, of Caledonia, Houston county. Stationed among frontier posts until May, 1863, when they were ordered upon the Indian expedition. Engaged with the Indians July 24, 26, 28, 30 and 31, 1863. Stationed at frontier posts upon the return of the expedition until mustered out. Mustered out by companies, between October 1, 1863, and December 30, 1863.

On July 28, 1863, while the main army were battling with over 4,000 Indians, two miles west from the camp, thirty-two members of Company M, commanded by Lieuts. D. B. Johnson, Jr., and John Hanley, were detailed to guard teams one and one-half miles west from the camp, they suddenly discovered a band of Indians swooping down upon them. The little band resolved to sell their lives dearly. Between them and the Indians there were two knolls a few rods apart. In the second ravine the little band gathered, but had hardly formed in line, partly covered by one of the small hills or knolls, when the Indians came in sight over the other hill. The Indians, not seeing the thirty-two men, fired at the teamsters and their teams. Company M immediately opened fire and continued firing until Black Bear, the Indian chief who was leading the Indians, received two bullets in his body, whereupon he wheeled his horse around and started on a wild retreat. The little band was then ordered to charge. Black Bear received two more bullets in his head and fell from his horse, to which his body was attached by a lasso. His horse and all his accoutrements of war were captured. When the chief wheeled his horse for a retreat all his warriors followed his example. The engagement lasted but a few minutes, and was so hotly contested that the Indians could not carry away their dead, which they always do if possible. They left the body of the dead chief and three others on the field. The fortunate circumstance of killing the Indian chief saved this heroic little band from utter annihilation. Not

one of them was killed and some are alive to-day to tell the tale. The locality of this battle is known as Dead Buffalo Lake.

Company H—Originally commanded by Capt. George S. Ruble. Sergeant—Ewing Lyle. Quartermaster Sergeant—Richard Williams. Corporal—Wilson Beach. Private—Samuel Loomis.

Company M—Originally commanded by Capt. James Starkey. First Lieutenant—Daniel B. Johnson, Jr. First Sergeant—W. B. Spencer. Corporal—Alonzo W. Cowles. Teamster—Simeon Gifford. Privates—James Bodine, Richard Huntly, Caleb Lewis, Lucius Woodworth, W. M. Wright, Orville Slocum, John H. Woodworth, Patrick Frost, Joseph Kellen, Warren Macke, George Wood, J. F. Smith.

THIRD BATTERY ARTILLERY.

Private—James Feely.

FALLEN HEROES.

The following comprises a list of those gallant soldiers who left their homes and took up their muskets for the defense of their country, never to return, who laid down their lives for the Union:

Edwin Frazier died at Chattanooga, Tenn., November 14, 1864; John D. Ripley died at Nashville, Tenn., November 20, 1862; Capt. Robert P. Mooers, killed in action at Corinth, October 3, 1862; James A. McCabe was killed at the battle of Lake Shicott, June, 1864; Samuel B. Rolfe died July 15, 1862, near Farmington, Miss.; Ambrose C. Smith died at Quincy, Ill., November 24, 1862; Israel Baker died May 22, 1863, at Vicksburg, Miss.; William H. Bogart died at St. Louis, August, 1863; George S. Hutchinson died at Iuka, Miss., of wounds, September 27, 1862; Henry Loomis died June 9, 1863, at Memphis, Tenn.; James Morrison died near Farmington, Miss., July 23, 1862; Samuel Parks died October 29, 1862, at St. Louis, Mo.; Eugene E. Parmenter died February 3, 1864, at St. Louis, Mo.; Robert T. Tifft died of a gunshot wound, May 22, 1864; Calvin H. Patchen died September 5, 1862, at Iuka, Miss.; Hardy Lewis was killed at Tupelo, Miss., July 15, 1864; Benjamin Bartholomew died at Fort Ridgely, Minn., March 22, 1863; Truman Butler died July 15, 1863, by premature discharge of a cannon, at Fort Ridgely, on July 4, 1863; Alden H. Chaffin died October 23, 1864, at Memphis, Tenn.; James H. Carver died at Jefferson City, Mo., November 1, 1863; David F. M. Felch died at Memphis, Tenn., October 1, 1864; William N. Lent died August 4, 1864, at Memphis, Tenn.; Oscar L. Tanner was killed April 8, 1865, at Spanish Fort, Ala.; Adial Wilcox was killed in the battle of Nashville, Tenn., December 16, 1864; Augustus Whitney was killed June 10, 1864, at battle of Price's Cross Roads; Simeon

Gifford died November 22, 1864, at Fort Wadsworth; Henry Hollingshead died December 2, 1864, at Fort Wadsworth; Pliney Conkey, it is supposed, died in Milan prison, in the State of Georgia. Samuel Surface was killed, place unknown; W. C. Sommers, killed in front of Vicksburg; Roy Anderson, drowned at Big Stone Lake, on an Indian expedition.

The following died in Andersonville prison: Hartland Ames, Stephen N. Chandler, Henry Rolfe, Isaac Bisgrow, Byran A. Vanhouse, Albert E. Wheeler, Franklin C. Wilson, James N. Woodbury.

COLONEL ROGERS' CAREER.

Col. Henry C. Rogers was born in Vermont in 1834. He removed to Minnesota in 1856 and settled in Mower county, where he engaged in farming and mercantile business. In 1862 he was a member of the house of representatives in this state and in the fall of that year was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the Eighth Minnesota, and held that position until mustered out at the close of the war. In the fall of 1865 he was elected secretary of state and was re-elected in 1867, when his health precluded his longer holding that position. In the winter of 1869-70 he was appointed pension agent of Minnesota, and held that position until his death. At the battle of Murfreesboro, in December, 1864, Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers was in command of his regiment, Colonel Thomas having command of the brigade, and his troops were ordered to hold a position in an open field against the enemy located in the woods adjacent. The fire became so hot that Colonel Rogers ordered his men to lie down, while he, with that courage which knew no fear, rode up and down the line, a conspicuous target for the enemy. He faced the bullets in safety until just as the victory was won, when a bullet struck his right arm, passed through it, and would have gone through his body but for the fortunate interposition of a belt buckle. From this wound he never recovered, and his health until his death remained in a precarious condition. He died May 8, 1871, at Brownsdale. The Grand Army of the Republic post, formed at Brownsdale in 1882, took his name. The monument fund was started in the spring of 1883, through the energetic exertions of Albert Swift, post commander. He was materially aided in his efforts by A. C. Hawley, of St. Paul. Henry C. Rogers Post contributed \$25. The remainder came from prominent men in St. Paul, among whom are the Hon. Alex. Ramsey, Gen. J. B. Sanborn, Gen. J. T. Averill, Gen. J. H. Baker, the Hon. William R. Marshall, Col. William Crooks, Gen. A. C. Hawley, the Hon. W. W. Braden, the Hon. Charles Kittleson, the Hon. S. P. Jennison, the Hon. David Day, the Hon. Albert Scheffer, the Hon. M. D. Flower, the Hon. A. R. McGill and

the Hon. Samuel Nichols. The monument is located about a mile and a half south of Brownsdale, in Greenwood cemetery. It is a cottage monument in design, made of blue Vermont marble.

CHAPTER XXVII.

POSTAL HISTORY.

Growth and Development of the System—First Offices in Mower County—Stories of the Stage Coach Drivers—History of the Present and Discontinued Postoffices of Mower County—Edited by George E. Anderson.

The postal service has existed within the memory of every person living, and is therefore a matter of such every-day concern that probably few persons realize that it is a feature of government as old as the written history of man. The influence and accomplishments of the postal service have practically extended the progress of commercialism throughout the world. So far as history records, a system of communication was evidently conceived by Cyrus shortly after his conquest of the Persian empire in the year 550 B. C. That systematic ruler sought to keep in touch with the affairs of his vast domain, and to that end required his governors to write to him frequently about their several districts. In order to make these communications safe and expeditious he built post roads throughout the empire and established posthouses at distances along these roads. The service, however, both in ancient and medieval periods was established for the government alone and not for the general public.

The first postoffice which was established for the general public was in 1516, between Berlin and Vienna. In 1823 England established a postal system, but it was only used for communications between the royal family.

The postal system in America dates from 1639, when the General Court of Massachusetts, by an ordinance, legalized such a system and directed that all letters brought from across the sea or to be sent to parts of the colonies, should be left at the house of Richard Fairbanks, in Boston, and by him sent to the proper destination. He was allowed a penny compensation for the transmission of each letter and was accountable to the authorities for any dereliction of duty. The postal system, however, in the early colonial days, was somewhat of a go-as-you-please system. In 1785 the colonies decided to manage the postal business on their

own responsibility, and appointed Ben. Franklin postmaster, at \$1,000 a year. In 1776, the total number of postoffices in operation was only twenty-eight, fourteen of which were in Massachusetts. Real developments of the postal service in the United States began in 1789, and the marvelous progress which has been made since that time is a matter with which the public is more or less familiar. In that year there were seventy-five offices, yielding a revenue of less than \$40,000. Today we have over 60,000 postoffices, yielding a revenue of over \$200,000,000. The service has grown and expanded to such a degree that twenty years ago would have been considered extravagant, and yet the service is practically in its infancy. But it already forms an intricate network over all our land and extends to the far-off island possessions, and yet its achievements are not nearly at an end. It is in view of these facts that a short historical sketch of the postal service and its development in this county may be of interest in this work.

In the days of the earliest settlement there were no postoffices in the county, but letters were often brought by travelers to settlers from friends back east or in the old country. The first postoffice in Mower county was called Elkhorn, and was established in 1855 with Jacob McQuillan as postmaster. It was on the old stage route, and mail was received once a week.

Next came the offices at Frankford and Austin, established within a short time of each other, and the old Chandler postoffice, which was opened shortly afterward.

In those early days mail was brought to this county by stage, or sometimes by friendly disposed travelers coming in from Mississippi points. The roads were scarcely more than a trail, and often all passengers on board a stage had to get out and assist in prying the stage wheels from the mud with rails cut from roadside saplings. Sometimes, too, the mail pouches were carried on the shoulders of the stage driver, while the passengers with their baggage waded through swamps over which it was impossible for the stage to pass when weighted with any burdens. The stories of the old stage coach days would fill many volumes.

The stage driver was often an important personage. He was one who saw life in various forms in various places, and the opinions with which he favored the crowds gathered at the stopping points along the line were listened to with the deepest respect. Especially was this true during the Civil war, when the stage driver brought the latest war news and opinions from the larger centers. At that time the people of the villages of Minnesota had little sympathy with those who were lukewarm in the Union cause. Consequently the complaint was universal when N. M. Wilder, the stage driver, expressed the opinion that

there might be some virtue in the Secession cause. On June 18, 1862, the contract for carrying the mail from Owatonna to Osage via Austin was annulled by reason of what was termed Mr. Wilder's too free expression of sympathy with the Confederate movement. For a time the contract thus taken from Wilder was restored to the previous carriers, Williamson & Cotter. Later, however, Mr. Wilder demonstrated his loyalty and the contract was again placed in his hands.

In 1867 the railroad was put through, touching at Lansing, Ramsey, Austin, Le Roy and other points. Some stage lines, however, continued to exist, and as late as 1870 the following list appears in the newspapers as the correct enumeration of the stage mail routes in Mower county:

From Austin to Albert Lea; Rochester to Le Roy; Kasson to Mower City; Mower City to Spring Valley; Mower City to Austin; Nevada to Austin; Austin to Moscow; Lansing to Neury; Albert Lea to Austin; Mitchell to Adams; West Mitchell to Lyle; Riceville to Le Roy; Northwood to Austin; Minneapolis to Lansing, Austin, Rose Creek, Adams and Le Roy. All were stage routes except the one from Austin to Albert Lea and the one from Minneapolis to points in this county.

AUSTIN POSTOFFICE.

Austin postoffice was established about 1856 with Alanson B. Vaughan, the first merchant at this point, as postmaster. His store in which he opened the office was situated near the present site of the Elk hotel at the corner of Chatham and Bridge streets. Mr. Vaughan was succeeded in 1857 by L. N. Griffith, who moved it to a small building on the site now occupied by the Hormel provision market. This small building was erected by Mr. Griffith and the boxes were put in by Jonas Hancy. The rental charges were ten cents a quarter for a box, and Mr. Griffith, who is still a hale and hearty resident of Austin, informs us that the patrons considered that an exorbitantly high price to pay for such service. The appointment of Mr. Griffith was the result of an effort to keep the center of the village somewhere near the present court house square. Mr. Vaughan was a Republican, and he realized that President James Buchanan would soon appoint a Democrat to the office. The leading Democratic candidate for the appointment was Jerry B. Yates, whose aim was to move the postoffice, and consequently the center of the village, to the present site of the Catholic church, where most of his property was located. In those days a postmaster who resigned had the privilege of appointing his own successor. Consequently Mr. Vaughan resigned in favor of Mr. Griffith, who was a Democrat, thus plac-

ing in office one who was of the same political faith as Buchanan, and at the same time keeping the center of the village near where the majority of the citizens desired it. When Mr. Griffith first assumed the duties of the office, the cancellation and fees amounted to about one dollar and a half a day, the patrons coming from a radius of twenty miles or more. But as other offices were established the business decreased to about twelve dollars per month, and consequently Mr. Griffith resigned. He appointed as his successor A. S. Everest, who assumed office in 1858 and purchased the office building and fixtures. Mr. Griffith relates that in those days all the mail was carried in one pouch, for all the points along the stage line. When the pouch reached an office, the postmaster unlocked it, took therefrom the mail directed to the patrons of his office, placed therein the mail deposited at the office for other points, and then locked the pouch again. Mr. Everest, who succeeded Mr. Griffith, was an attorney, served as county treasurer, and the county headquarters for a number of years were maintained at his office. He was an extensive land owner, and a part of his farm is now that part of Austin west of Kenwood avenue and south of Oakland avenue. Everest was succeeded by J. S. Lacy, who was an early hotel-keeper, having erected the Lacy House on the present site of the McCulloch Printing Company plant. He in turn was succeeded by C. J. Shortt, who was also an attorney, and for a number of years was a justice of the peace in Austin. Mr. Shortt resided in Austin until his death, after which his family moved back east. After Mr. Shortt came Lyman A. Sherwood. Mr. Sherwood was a lieutenant in the Civil war, and was clerk of the district court nine years before being appointed postmaster. George Baird was the next postmaster. Mr. Baird came to Mower county in 1856. He was a captain in the Civil war and served for many years as sheriff of the county. Charles Sawyer was appointed to succeed Mr. Baird. He was employed in Ackley's shoe store. After him came J. C. Smith. A. J. Phelps, who was a justice of the peace, was the next postmaster. He in turn was followed by C. H. Davidson. Mr. Davidson was born in Illinois, March 13, 1846. He came to Austin in 1857, with his father, Joshua L. Davidson, and was employed in the first newspaper office in Mower county, which was then the Mirror. In 1863, in company with his brother, he started the Mower County Register, a paper which is now succeeded by the Mower County Republican. Later he purchased the Transcript, which he conducted until 1886. Mr. Davidson was prominently identified with every movement which was for the betterment of the county and community. A. E. Meigs was the next postmaster. He conducted the office in connection with a news stand, east of what is now the First National Bank building.

He was succeeded by A. A. Harwood, who was also an editor. Mr. Harwood came originally from Owatonna. After Mr. Harwood came R. I. Smith, a photographer, who afterwards conducted a gallery over Pooler's drug store. Subsequently C. H. Davidson was reappointed. After this came H. O. Basford, who kept the office in the building where the Normal Restaurant is now located. Mr. Basford was then the editor and sole owner of the Mower County Register, and later started the first daily in Mower county, if not in southern Minnesota. He now spends his summers in Austin, and is a highly respected citizen. He was succeeded by Christ Johnson, who after his term of office was a merchant in partnership with the father of T. A. Revord, in the hardware business, the store being located in the building now occupied by K. O. Wold's drug store. After selling his interest there he formed a partnership with his son-in-law in the clothing business, the store occupying the present site of the Golden Eagle. He subsequently removed to Buffalo, Minn., where he now resides. After Mr. Johnson, George Baird served a second time, but died before the expiration of his term of office. President Grover Cleveland then appointed A. B. Hunkins for a term of four years. Mr. Hunkins was owner and editor of the weekly Democrat, which has been succeeded by the Herald. The first rural route in Mower county was inaugurated under Mr. Hunkins, as was also the city free delivery system, which was established March 1, 1898. After leaving the postmastership, Mr. Hunkins conducted the Austin Canning Factory for a number of years, and later was engaged for some time in perfecting an addressing and folding machine. He secured a patent, and later moved to Mason City, Iowa, where he became a manufacturer. Mr. Hunkins was succeeded as postmaster by S. Swenningsen, who was then a member of the upper house of the Minnesota legislature. Previous to his holding the postmastership he had been a merchant and for many years clerk of court. He was associated in business with C. I. Johnson, who is now a shoe merchant in Austin, and F. E. Gleason, now an Austin jeweler. Mr. Swenningsen now lives in California. During Mr. Swenningsen's term, the rural carrier routes were increased to six, emanating from this office in all directions and forming a complete rural service, covering a radius of ten miles or more from the city. For some time previous to Mr. Swenningsen's administration, the postoffice was located on the present site of the Hormel provision market. This was seemingly a favorite location for the postoffice, as the site was occupied for postal purposes at several different periods of Austin's history. After conducting the office at this point for four years, Mr. Swenningsen moved the office to the present site, corner of Main street and Oakland avenue. After Mr. Swenningsen, came O. J. Simmons,

who assumed office April 1, 1907, and was reappointed by President William Taft, in 1911. Mr. Simmons has proven an able and capable officer, and the efficiency of the service he has maintained demonstrates his fitness for his responsible and often trying position. Mr. Simmons may well be proud of the fact that he will be the first postmaster in the handsome government building now in the process of construction.

The official roster of the Austin postoffice at the present time is as follows: Postmaster, O. J. Simmons; assistant postmaster, George E. Anderson; clerks, C. I. Riley, W. J. Rice, G. E. Sharpstene, H. F. Olson; city letter carriers, William L. Wells, T. S. Thompson, C. L. Carter, F. I. Scullin, Sven Anderson, Jr.; rural letter carriers, M. J. Smith, J. A. Mills, Carl Johnson, C. E. Kearns, W. O. Johnson and H. A. Rutherford; substitute city carrier, Ralph Craig; substitute rural carriers, I. S. Van House, H. C. Aldrich, B. A. Campbell and P. A. Riley; special delivery messenger, Charles H. Earl. In addition to these employes, there are a number of railway postal clerks who make this their permanent headquarters, Austin being a terminal for several of the railroad mail routes.

Austin became a money order office in 1866. The first order was issued to James C. Ackley, remitter. Payee, F. W. Detome, Milwaukee, Wis. Amount, \$13.80. Date, August 6, 1866. The first order paid was to Ormanzo Allen. Amount, \$8.50. Date, August 13, 1866. It became a presidential office in 1867. The first postal note was purchased by Prof. A. W. Rankin, drawn in favor of parties in Wisconsin, for \$4.99.

It is conceded that the growth of the postal receipts is an accurate barometer by which may be judged the growth of any community. It may be of interest to know that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, there were 1,904 domestic money orders issued at the Austin postoffice, while thirty years later we find that there were issued during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, 10,286 domestic orders, amounting to \$70,497.13, yielding fees of \$592.71. During the same year there were 8,481 domestic orders paid, amounting to \$51,049.92. There were issued during the year 174 international orders, to the amount of \$2,109.82, yielding fees of \$24.28. Twenty-nine international orders were paid during the year, amounting to \$733.55. During the same year there were registered at this office 3,388 pieces, enumerated as follows: 1,856 domestic letters, 1,171 domestic parcels, 110 foreign letters, 26 foreign parcels, 225 official free and registered matter. There were 3,261 pieces of registered pieces received for delivery. During the past ten years the receipts of the office have been as follows: 1900, \$12,226.43; 1901, \$13,044.54; 1902, \$14,196.11; 1903, \$14,419.57; 1904, \$15,116.13; 1905, \$15,491.77; 1906, \$16,737.47;

1907, \$18,076.67; 1908, \$20,999.17; 1909, \$21,004.67; 1910, \$22,804.31.

Through the efforts of Congressman J. A. Tawney, who was for a number of years chairman of the appropriations committee of the national House of Representatives, Austin secured an appropriation of \$58,000 for the purpose of buying a site and erecting a suitable government building. A tract of land fronting 102 feet on Bridge street and 125 feet on St. Paul street was purchased eight years ago by the secretary of the treasury, under whose supervision government buildings are erected, but it was not until August 22, 1910, that active building operations were begun on the two-story building which will serve as a permanent postoffice home in this city for many years at least.

The Northern Construction Company of Milwaukee was awarded the contract for constructing the building, and B. F. Judson, of Washington, D. C., represents the government as superintendent of construction. Cold weather interfered with the construction during 1910, and labor was not resumed officially until April 12, 1911, when the corner-stone was laid with great ceremony by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, A. F. & A. M. The Grand Master and other grand officers were in attendance to assist in the exercises, which were preceded by the biggest fraternal parade ever witnessed in Austin. Since this event rapid progress has been made and it no doubt will be ready for occupancy by January 1, 1912.

The building will be forty-nine feet on Bridge street and seventy-six feet on St. Paul street. At the north will be a fine lawn, while on the east will be a vitrified brick drive. There will be an entrance on each street. Its style of architecture will be Renaissance and its beauty will be enhanced by a carefully selected combination of materials.

The foundation which is already completed is built of granite and extends to the first floor line, above which Bedford limestone and gray brick is used. It will be one of the most attractive buildings in the city, and certainly one of the finest government buildings in this part of the country.

In the basement will be found the city carriers' swing rooms, which will be used by the carriers when not on duty. There will also be a janitor's room, a postoffice storage room, fuel and boiler rooms, and lavatories. A steam heating plant will be installed, also a secondary hot-water system for warm seasons.

The entire first floor will be devoted exclusively to postal purposes. The postmaster's room will be located in the southeast corner, and will be finished in harmony with the prominent position it occupies with respect to the entire building. The money order and registry department will be located in a 14x20 room, in

the northwest corner. At the east end of this room will be a 7x8-foot vault, which will be used for the storage of surplus postal supplies, also the postal and money order records. Directly back of this room, on the east, will be the mailing vestibule and platform, which will be used by the mail messenger as storage place for incoming and outgoing pouches and sacks. In the east center will be located the workroom proper. It will be 32x40 feet, and will extend the entire two stories of the building, thus making a high, light, airy and comfortable workroom. This room will also be finished in harmony with the general plan of the building, and will also be equipped with a vault. The lobby, which will be situated on both the St. Paul and Bridge street sides of the building, will be an architectural feature. The floors will be terazzo, finished with marble borders. The screen work will be constructed of marble and oak. On the St. Paul street side will be found the general delivery, stamp window and drops. There will be 376 lock boxes of four different sizes, divided into three sections, in each of which will be a window for the delivery of such packages as are too large for the boxes. Two writing desks of handsome design will be provided for public use, as well as directory cases and bulletin board. The lobby walls above the marble and oak wainscoting will be of handsome design, the construction of which will be composed of plaster pilasters, molded caps and cornices. The design of the ceiling will be an elaborate one and in perfect harmony with the general plan of the lobby. The entrances will be furnished with revolving doors. The main floor will be of reinforced concrete instead of the usual wood construction. The main stairway starts at the southwest corner of the building and leads to the second story, which comprises five unassigned rooms, four of which are 14x15 feet, and one 14x42 feet. This floor will also be equipped with all modern conveniences and will afford ideal office rooms for other government departments. A stairway from this floor leads to the attic, which may be used for surplus storage quarters.

The main entrances will each be lighted with two large lights suspended on ornamental brackets, and the lighting throughout will be furnished from combination gas and electric fixtures. The lavatories will be of marble floors and marble wainscoting throughout. Not to leave anything in the way of modern improvement undone, a complete telephone system will be installed.

OTHER POSTOFFICES.

Lyle Postoffice. The government has been represented in the village of Lyle by a regularly appointed postmaster since the organization of the village, but records are not available whereby

a glimpse of the past may be had earlier than July 1, 1887, when C. P. Collins officially canceled postage behind closed doors. O. G. Myhre succeeded Mr. Collins in the office, May 1, 1889, and for three years served the patrons of the office. Mr. Stanley, better known as Captain Stanley, was next in order, authorized by the government to administer the affairs of the office, which he did creditably until October 17, 1894, when the Cleveland administration ushered in a change in the local office and Frank B. Losey stood at the helm. Losey's term, however, was shorter than Cleveland's, his term closing January 1, 1896, when George Robertson assumed the roll of postmaster in the Lyle office. On February 1, 1903, Burton J. Robertson succeeded his father and has since had charge of the office. The office has had a steady growth from the beginning, until at present it serves mail to about one thousand people, with the following force in charge: B. J. Robertson, postmaster; Chris Johnson, assistant postmaster; Grace Sherman, assistant postmistress; John Carter, Chris Johnson and Will Murphy, carriers. Instead of being annexed to some other business establishment as a side issue, it occupies a building by itself and receives and delivers mail from and to nine incoming and outgoing trains daily. Since 1908 the office has been in the third class. Routes 1 and 2 were established May 2, 1904, and No. 3 was established October 1, 1908. The annual business done amounts to \$3,300.

Grand Meadow Postoffice. The Grand Meadow postoffice was started in 1860 on the farm of B. F. Langworthy, northeast quarter of section 12, in what is now the township of Grand Meadow. In 1870, when the railroad came through, the office was removed to the village. The office became a registry office in 1870. It was changed to the third class October 1, 1909. The office was made a money order office in 1879. The first order issued was by Roland Dunbar, July 7, 1879, the amount being \$1. The first order paid was to Peter Rose, July 23, 1879, the amount being \$28.35. The postmasters have been B. F. Langworthy, Hicks and Vining, C. F. Greening, R. Dunbar, John Criswell, S. Y. Paddock, and the present incumbent, C. E. Hovda. The assistant is Addie B. Doherty. The carriers are W. F. Rice, Charles Nashold and Joseph Sorben, routes Nos. 1, 2 and 3 having been established June 4, 1900; May 15, 1901, and February 1, 1903, respectively. The office does a good annual business and Mr. Hovda has proven a most capable official.

Adams Postoffice. The Adams postoffice was established in 1859, on section 8, in Adams township. Later it was moved to the village. The first money order was issued to Ole A. Bergens, July 27, 1892. The first order was paid to Erick Jenson, August 24, 1892. Johnsburg was discontinued into this office December 31,

1900. Rural Route No. 1 was established January 2, 1901, with O. H. Njos as carrier. Route No. 2 was established March 2, 1903, with Louis Slindes as carrier. The postmasters have been John S. Irgens, Harold Irgens, A. D. Harris, P. M. Rooney, Mathias Krebsbach, A. Torgerson, Anton Kinn, James Slindee, E. L. Slindee. Mr. Slindee is assisted by Mrs. Annie C. Slindee, assistant postmistress, and N. P. Gurvin, clerk.

Brownsdale Postoffice. Brownsdale postoffice was established in the fall of 1856, with John L. Johnson as postmaster. The office was kept in his store. Mails were received once a week, brought from Austin on horseback. Mr. Johnson remained in charge of the office until 1858, when H. W. Shook received the appointment of postmaster. He was relieved in turn by A. D. Brown, R. C. Heath, E. J. Stimson, H. Tilton, A. Stevens, Stephen Ives, A. J. Hunt and W. S. Woodard. Mr. Woodard was succeeded by E. J. Stimson, who was followed by Albert Swift in 1891. He held the office till 1897, when he was succeeded by Wm. H. Palmer, the present incumbent.

The office was created a money order office July 1, 1874. The first order was issued July 6, 1874, to Mons Erickson, of Brownsdale, in favor of Ole Wilson, of Kasson, Dodge county, Minnesota; amount, \$5. The first order paid was issued at Dublin, Va., to George W. Weiser, in favor of James M. Weiser; amount, \$50; was paid July 18, 1874.

Dexter Postoffice. This office was established in 1874. For a time it was kept at the railroad station by Amasa Converse, the first postmaster, who was succeeded by the following postmasters: John L. Gaskill, L. M. Gaskill, George W. Buck, O. J. Dickens, P. Sheridan, B. S. Benner and E. W. Dorr, the last named being the present incumbent. He has served since June 17, 1901. The Manilla and Sutton offices have been discontinued into this office. Mr. Dorr has an assistant and a clerk. Two rural routes emanate from this office, and were established in 1900 and 1904, respectively. The carriers are the Messrs. Chase and Gilmore. The annual business is in the neighborhood of \$2,000.

Racine Postoffice. Racine postoffice was originally established in 1878 with T. W. Stewart as postmaster. The present postoffice was established in 1890, when the railroad came through. Among the postmasters have been Robert Eichhorn and O. B. Morse. The present postmaster is Chris Schwarz. The first money order was issued May 23, 1899, to H. Mork. The first order was paid the same day to G. Preibl. Rural routes Nos. 1 and 2 were established respectively on May 15, 1901, and May 2, 1904. The annual business done is about \$1,000.

Rose Creek Postoffice was established in 1868 and Isaac M. Ray was appointed the first postmaster. The office was kept in his

residence in the Patrick Mealy house. After the first postmaster came C. R. Varco, George Sutton, F. G. Ray, Thomas Cronan, and then again F. G. Ray, who is still serving. The office was made a money order office in 1878. The first order was drawn July 1, 1878, by John Hallin, for \$10, in favor of Andrew Peet, Independence, Kan. The first order was to J. A. Priest, July 5, 1878, the amount being \$5.

Lansing Postoffice. The Lansing postoffice was established in the summer of 1858, with P. D. Vaughan as postmaster. The office was kept at his house in section 3, where it remained until about 1864 or 1865, when it was removed to the store building, with A. B. Vaughan as postmaster. The office remained here until about 1868, when the office was moved across the street to the store building in section 11, Mr. Vaughan retaining the office. October 29, 1875, W. B. Vaughan received the appointment of postmaster. The office was created a money order office July 1, 1878. The first order drawn was for \$2.90, by P. D. Vaughan, in favor of Walter H. Shupe, of New York, dated July 1, 1878. The first order paid was for \$3.65, to Mrs. J. S. Greeley, from Mrs. Josephine Miller, of Beaver Falls, Minn. After W. B. Vaughan came George W. Bartlett, who was appointed April 25, 1886. His successor was H. M. McIntyre, the present incumbent, who received his commission May 21, 1889. Corning was discontinued into this office, October 1, 1906. One rural route was established March 2, 1903. The present force in the office consists of H. M. McIntyre, postmaster; assistant, H. S. McIntyre; clerk, A. E. Mapes; rural carrier, E. W. Carll; substitutet rural carrier, F. A. Carll. The annual business done is about \$1,000. The money order business amounts to about \$5,000.

Waltham Postoffice. Waltham postoffice was established in 1866, with Col. A. J. Burbank as postmaster. The office was kept at the Waltham House, of which he was landlord. The mail route from Brownsdale to Kasson, in Dodge county, passed by this office, from which route it was supplied. The office remained here until 1868, when Moses Boliou was appointed postmaster, and the office removed to his house in section 9, where it remained until 1872, when it was discontinued. The present office was established March 9, 1886, with J. A. Stephan as postmaster. Mr. Stephan is still serving in that capacity, and has the longest term of service of any postmaster in the county. The first money order was issued January 4, 1899, to Rev. F. C. Milius, and the first order was paid February 22, 1899. Rural service was established from this office March 2, 1893, and covers a wide territory.

Taopi Postoffice. This postoffice was established in the spring of 1875, with William Brainerd as the first postmaster. It was first kept in a cooper shop in block 3, and later moved into C.

Alleman's store, on Main street, block 2. In course of time C. Alleman was appointed postmaster, and held the office until Frank Lyons was appointed by President Grover Cleveland. It was then moved further down on Main street. J. M. Lukens was next appointed, and was succeeded by M. H. Lyons, who kept the office in the old Corbitt building on Main street. G. M. Campbell was appointed postmaster December 1, 1897, and was followed by Jane Campbell, who was appointed December 18, 1902. The first money order was issued January 13, 1894, to Peter Kasel, and the first order paid was to Mrs. Anthony Loftus, January 19, 1894. The rural service was established May 1, 1904. John Johnson is now serving as rural carrier.

Other Offices. There are also postoffices at Sargeant, Renova, Elkton and Mayville. It is impossible to give a history of these offices owing to the fact that the postmasters have refused to furnish the information in spite of the fact that several letters of inquiry have been addressed to them.

DISCONTINUED POSTOFFICES.

Among the discontinued postoffices in Mower county may be mentioned Corning, Frankford, Johnsburg, Ramsey, Root River, Sutton, Udolpho, Chandler postoffice, Madison, Brooklyn, Bennington and others.

Corning. The postoffice at this point continued for many years, but was discontinued in October, 1906.

Chandler Postoffice. This office was established in 1856, with W. Means as postmaster. It was on the route between Osage and Owatonna, and mail was received once a week. The successor of Means was D. L. Chandler, who kept the office at his house, section 33, township of Austin.

Elkhorn. This was established in 1855 with Jacob McQuillan as postmaster. Mail was received from Chatfield once in two weeks. The office was discontinued when Hamilton was established.

Udolpho postoffice was established about 1874, with Samuel Dunnell, brother of Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, as postmaster. The office was kept at his house in section 2. He was succeeded by Philip Setzer, as postmaster, and the office moved to his house in section 1. It remained here a short time, when Joseph Reynolds received the appointment of postmaster and the office removed to his house in section 1. It was again removed and Gideon Stoddard appointed postmaster. The office was kept at his house on section 2. Mrs. Malina S. Carll kept the office at her house in section 2.

The first mails were received twice a week, via Brownsdale, Waltham postoffice and this office, to Blooming Prairie.

Brooklyn. The first postoffice in Windom township was established in 1858, under the name of Brooklyn. It was on the mail route from McGregor to Austin. The name was afterward changed to Canton. Horatio Marsh was the first postmaster. He was succeeded a few years later by Walter Fuller, who resigned shortly after the railroad was built, and the office was discontinued. Mr. Fuller turned over the records of the office to George Sutton, then postmaster at Rose Creek.

Frankford Postoffice. This office was established in 1856. Lewis Patchen was appointed postmaster. Early postmasters were T. M. Chapman, Charles Lamb and Lewis Patchen.

Madison. A postoffice was established at this point about 1857 by Warren Brown. Later the postoffice was re-established in charge of Moody & Co. Later E. Bassett took the office and continued it about twelve years, but later gave it up.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

GRAND MEADOW TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Location and Soil of Township—Early Settlement—Organization—Village of Grand Meadow—Opening of the Settlement and Early Business Interests—Societies—Churches—Postoffice—Library—Catastrophes—Early Events—Village Government.

Grand Meadow township embraces congressional township 103 north, range 15 west of the fifth principal meridian. Its boundaries are Pleasant Valley township on the north, Frankford township on the east, Clayton township on the south, Dexter township on the west. The soil is of excellent quality, well adapted to the growth of all the crops commonly cultivated in this section of the country. This is a prairie township. The surface in the northern part is rolling, while in the southern it is quite level. An agreeable variety is imparted to the landscape by groves of trees, which have been planted with a liberal hand to aid and supplement the work of nature. The attention of the farmers of this district, until within a few years, mainly devoted to the production of wheat and other grains, is now being largely turned to the interests of stock raising and the dairy. Deer creek, which takes its rise in Clayton township, flows through the southeastern part of Grand Meadow, mostly in sections 35 and 36. In the northeastern

quarter are two branches of Bear creek, one of which, rising in section 3, passes through sections 2 and 12. The other lies farther south, and crosses the eastern boundary of the township in section 13.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in the town of Grand Meadow was made by Erlund Olson, in the autumn of 1854. Olson was a native of Norway. He came here from Dane county, Wisconsin, and settled on the northeast quarter of section 12. The log house built by him here was the first in the town. After remaining here for some years, Olson sold his place and removed to the town of Racine. The next settlers were Arthur McNelly and Andrew McCabe—the former a native of Ireland, the latter of New York state. They took claims on section 13. In August, 1856, B. F. Langworthy made a claim on section 12. He purchased other land near by, at \$2.50 per acre, until he acquired in all 960 acres. In 1875 he sold it at \$25 per acre, and removed to Spring Valley. In the latter part of the year 1856, S. H. Rice, a native of the Buckeye state, settled on the northwest quarter of section 35, which remained his home until the time of his death in 1881. Mr. Rice was one of the original signers of the Grand Meadow railroad bonds, issued to the Southern Minnesota Railway Company. Isaiah Peterson came with his family to Grand Meadow in the spring of 1857, and settled on section 6, where they remained but two years. In 1858 two children of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson died of croup. A son, named Peter Peterson, was born to them in the fall of 1857. William Seabern settled at an early day in the township's history on the southeast quarter of section 32. Joseph Ross, coming a few weeks later, settled on the southwest quarter of section 33, adjoining Seabern's land. Ross was from Nova Scotia. He enlisted in the northern army in 1862, and died in the service at Nashville, Tenn. About the year 1858, L. E. Pearce came from Pennsylvania and took a claim on section 26. After making a little improvement, he returned to the Keystone state, where he married. In the course of a few years he came back and settled on his farm. He was engaged for some time in the grain and lumber business at Grand Meadow village; later he did a commission business in Milwaukee. In 1858, one William Pye, who came from Michigan, settled on section 34. After living here some years, he went to Wisconsin, where he was subsequently joined by his family. Gilbert Christopherson took a claim in section 11, in 1856. He remained in the township two or three years and then returned to Dane county, Wisconsin. Andrew Halverson, Ole Sorflatten and Helge Johnson were Norwegian settlers of 1858. Halverson settled in the northern part of section 14. Sorflatten came directly

from Norway and settled in the south part of section 11. Johnson came here from Dane county, Wisconsin, and settled in the north part of the town. About the year 1879 he went back to Wisconsin. O. E. Sorben, A. Finhart and Ole Loe were also among the early Norwegian emigrants. Clark Markham, with his brothers, Erastus and Joseph, came here about the year 1859, and settled in section 16. C. B. Remington settled in section 8, in 1859. A Mr. Parker, who settled in section 17, went away in 1864. William Finendall and D. Vandenover came to Grand Meadow township in the year 1860, or near that time, and settled in section 5. Henry Weber settled in the northern part of section 4. A Mr. Gleason and his son-in-law settled in sections 17 and 18. They afterward removed to Rochester. Chauncey Knapp, mentioned elsewhere, was also an early settler.

ORGANIZATION.

The town of Grand Meadow was organized in 1862. The first town meeting was held at the house of B. F. Langworthy, in section 12, on April 20 of that year. B. F. Langworthy, Chauncey Knapp and Orson W. Case were appointed judges of election, Alonzo Avery, clerk. The following is the list of town officers elected: B. F. Langworthy, chairman; C. Knapp, O. W. Case; A. Avery, clerk; G. C. Parker, treasurer; C. B. Remington and S. H. Rice, justices of peace; W. A. Lunt, assessor; N. C. Markham and J. M. McCabe, constables.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first store for the sale of general merchandise in the town was that of D. B. Colman.

The first hardware store was C. F. Greening's, opened in 1871, and still doing business.

The first child not of aboriginal parentage, born within the limits of this township was Forest E. Langworthy, later editor of the Spring Valley Mercury, published at Spring Valley, Fillmore county, Minnesota.

The first death was of a child of Mr. and Mrs. George Chatwood.

The first school house in the town stood on the southeast quarter of section 13. Delia Evans was the first teacher.

The first girl born in the township was a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. John Peterson.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME.

In the early days of the fifties a gentleman from one of the hilly eastern states was looking over the lands of this neighbor-

hood, and standing on an eminence with one of the few residents of that time, he remarked, as he looked over the great expanse of fertile lands, "What a Grand Meadow." His exclamation was truthful, and that name was adopted for all time. Grand Meadow is certainly a beautiful piece of country. Gently undulating, sufficient to give ample drainage, no swamps, rocky hills, or sand dunes, all good available land, with the beautiful groves dotting the prairies, streams and little lakes, with a soil unsurpassed for fertility and ease of cultivation. There are cosy and comfortable homes, and a better grass or pasture country can hardly be found. In fact it led to the remark of one of a party of Elgin, Illinois, dairymen, who were here a short time ago, to exclaim: "I do not wonder that Minnesota can equal or even surpass Illinois in dairying when they can raise such grass as I see here."

THE VILLAGE OF GRAND MEADOW.

The tract of land upon which this village is platted was entered in 1858 by one N. Albee, who sold it to Henry Martin, of Connecticut. A transfer was made by Mr. Martin to Messrs. Hall, Easton, Thompson and Holly, who thus became proprietors of the original village site. F. H. Armstrong, of Alpena, Michigan, and L. E. Pearce laid out lots, and offered them for sale on the south side of the railroad track. The price of these being much less than that asked for the lots of the afore-named company, many were induced to buy them in preference to the others. Thus the south side became gradually settled, became the most desirable part of the village for residence. It should here be mentioned that the village was laid out in 1870, the railroad at that time having been built as far as the creek east of the village site.

Lumber was hauled from Spring Valley to put up the first buildings, two warehouses and a lumber office, the latter owned by Richards & Bray. It was later occupied by John Tyrrell as a residence. The first house built for a dwelling was that later occupied by E. M. Barnard. Its builder, L. E. Pearce, moved to Morris, Stevens county, in 1875. Pearce also built the first warehouse.

EARLY BUSINESS.

The first store was kept by D. B. Coleman in the building later used as a postoffice. Then, 1870, it stood in the street, but was afterward moved to where C. F. Greening's brick block was later erected. For this small room Mr. Coleman paid rent at the rate of \$40 per month. The building was later used for a liquor

saloon. Most of the older dwelling houses in this part of the village were built in the years 1870 and 1871. The Bell house, George Chatwood proprietor, was the first to be finished and opened as a hotel at Grand Meadow. After a lapse of three or four years it was leased for a period of five years by John McDevitt. At the end of that time, W. T. Hughart undertook its management. Mr. Hughart put an addition on the north side by moving across the street the Centennial house, built by him in 1876. Mr. A. Axtell was next in charge for a brief season, and later the hotel was discontinued. The Brown house was built by John Brown. It was first kept by him and afterward, for a few months, by Frank Dunbar. In 1877 Mr. Brown sold the property to F. M. Pierson. At one time this was the only public house in the village, continuing to be such until George J. A. Correll began to entertain guests at his place of business. Two elevators were built here in 1875. Bonner & Hyde's was the earlier begun, but Cargill's was first completed. The latter was burned in 1880. Another was built in its place. During the years 1876 and 1877 immense quantities of grain were marketed here. It is said that in the last four months of 1877 the freight bills of the shippers amounted to \$22,000 per month. A Mr. Plummer was the first to wield a sledge hammer within the village precincts. Mr. Plummer came from Hamilton, but he did not come to stay. Wherefore, when John Peterson put up a shop opposite the Collins house, establishing himself and his trade in Grand Meadow for life, as it would seem, he gained a right to be considered really the pioneer blacksmith of the place. George Newson, the first village barber, came here in 1876. J. Skyburg engaged in business in company with M. H. Fjelstad, in June, 1874, who had previously been engaged in trade here. They ran the business together until 1878, when Mr. Skyburg sold his interest in the business to Mr. Fjelstad. The next year (1879) Mr. Skyburg again embarked in the mercantile business in company with Ole Johnson. This firm remained in business about one and a half years, when the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Skyburg continuing the business.

GRAND MEADOW IN 1873.

In 1873, Grand Meadow had the following business houses: H. P. Coleman, general store and drugs, two stores; Rollin Dunbar, deputy postmaster, general store; A. Fjelstad, general store; Anderson & Clausen, furniture dealers; Ed. Peterson, harness maker and saddlery; August Fischer, shoemaker; Lore & Luttenberger, carpenters; Brown's hotel, John Brown, proprietor; C. C. Cole, blacksmith and plowmaker; John Peterson, blacksmith; Charles

F. Greening, hardware and bank. B. F. Langworthy was postmaster, Dr. S. M. Jenks, B. F. Wood, S. M. R. R., station agents. L. E. Pearce dealt in produce and machinery, as did also M. F. Vening, H. W. Elms and G. W. Wood. U. S. Potter was a grain buyer. F. M. Peirson, a resident of the village, has lived a longer time in this county than any other person now living within its limits.

GRAND MEADOW IN 1885.

In the fall of 1885, Grand Meadow had four churches, Congregational, Methodist, Lutheran and Catholic; a postoffice, a railroad station, a schoolhouse, two hotels, a boarding house, a dentist, a physician, a Turkish bath, a feed mill and several stores. The G. A. R. post, H. B. Sheldon, commander, was in a flourishing condition. Following is a brief business directory of the village at that time: C. F. Greening, general merchant and banking; Lovell & Sheldon, general merchants; S. S. Baken, drugs and decorations; J. Skyburg, dry goods; Hudson & Elliott, hardware; A. Thiel, shoes; Mrs. L. M. Hughart, meals; H. Orth, furniture; W. A. Nolan, harness shop; Charles Martin, farm machinery; C. P. Gladen, wagon maker; Nels Green, blacksmith; Peterson & Grimes, blacksmiths; J. J. Gilbertson, farm machinery; E. E. Myhre, tailor; W. W. Ranney, general merchant; Phillip & Brown, meats; John Criswell, postmaster and jeweler; Dr. Jackson, physician; F. M. Pierson, proprietor of the Brown house; W. H. Bentley, skating rink; J. Larkins, station agent; George Newsum, barber; M. O. Wilsie, lumber; E. M. Barnard, Alrah Hunt, C. W. Martin, grain buyers; Geo. J. A. Corell, hotel and grocery; A. Folsom, dry goods; Barnard & Elliott, Mrs. Lettie Palmer, milliners; W. T. Hughart, justice; A. B. M. Lindsley, president, C. F. Greening, treasurer, H. M. Lovell, secretary of creamery; Edward Lewis, drayman; H. M. Lovell, bird fancier; Thomas Wagoner, buttermaker; Charles Wood, hay presser; Lars Frankson, feed mill; W. T. Hughart, Turkish bath; Mrs. S. A. Nolan, boarding house.

INCORPORATION.

An act passed the legislature early in 1876 authorizing M. F. Vining, C. F. Greening and W. H. Bentley to conduct a village election in Grand Meadow. The election was held on the first Monday in April, 1876, and the following officers elected: President, E. M. Barnard; recorder, B. F. Wood; Wm. Bentley, Gilbert H. Allen, S. M. Jenks. The present officers of the village are: President, T. J. Grimes; recorder, N. O. Wilsie; C. L. Schroeder, G. W. Day, C. W. Martin.

MODERN GRAND MEADOW.

Grand Meadow is a prosperous village with a population of some 600 inhabitants. It is well laid out, has some excellent cement sidewalks, and is planted with many shade trees. Its citizens are progressive and the buildings modern and sightly.

Among the activities of Grand Meadow may be mentioned: Five churches, Methodist and Congregational resident pastors, one lumber yard, one fine high school, two hotels, one newspaper, three general stores, city, Masonic and M. W. A. halls, one opera house, one hardware store, one drug store, one clothing store, one merchant tailor, one jeweler, one dentist, one furniture and undertaking establishment, one harness shop, one automobile garage, two blacksmith establishments, one creamery, two carpenter shops, one woodworking establishment, one saw mill, one physician, one livery, two custom grist mills, two restaurants, one millinery store, one pool and billiard hall, one barber shop, one meat market, one telephone company, two land companies, one feed and coal establishment, one draying line, two painting establishments, and a postoffice. The Exchange State Bank has the finest bank building in this part of Minnesota.

Among the older settlers still represented in the business of the village are C. F. Greening, Exchange State Bank; John Peterson, blacksmith; P. Schleiger, drugs; M. O. Wilsie, lumber yard; Erick Torgrimson, general store (business conducted by son, G. T.); Erick Myhre, merchant tailor; C. W. Martin, conducting the Hyde elevation; Fred Pierson, "Old Brown House"; W. A. Nolan, harness and automobiles; Thomas J. Grimes, blacksmith; George Day, woodwork; John Peterson, blacksmith; Lars Frankson, grist mill.

Streets. The streets of Grand Meadow present an excellent appearance. Few villages in the state are better supplied with sidewalks, and the trees, pleasant residences, and sightly public and business buildings, add much to the attractiveness of life here. For several years the streets were lighted with oil. Lamps of gasoline gas are now provided, and an acetylene plant is under advisement.

City and Masonic Hall. This is a pretty structure built of brick and erected in 1890. The lower floor is used as a village hall and the upper floor is well furnished and devoted to Masonic purposes. The waterworks, tower, pump and well were put in in 1901.

M. W. A. Hall and Opera House. In 1909 a stock company was formed for the purpose of erecting a building to be used for a fraternity hall and place of entertainment. The building was

started in 1909 and dedicated in 1910. It is of brick with an ornamental front. The place is well lighted with gas, and few stages in southern Minnesota are as well equipped. The building is 100x50 feet. The auditorium is 50x66 and the stage 24x50 feet. A fine balcony adds to the seating capacity. The Woodman Hall Association was organized, as stated, in 1909. The officers were: President, E. F. Greening; secretary, W. D. Lockwood; treasurer, G. A. Wright; directors, F. M. Higbie, C. W. Martin, Andrew Haugen, C. E. Hovda, August Biederbeck and G. G. Torgrimson. The present officers are the same with the exception that Fred Seabern is secretary.

Fire Protection. Grand Meadow is excellently equipped to guard against fire. In the early days the village had various bucket brigades. The present Grand Meadow Hose company was organized September 18, 1894. At that meeting H. B. Sheldon was the chairman and C. F. Greening, secretary. The first officers elected were: Foreman, W. A. Nolan; assistant, P. Wilson; secretary, John J. Weeks; treasurer, C. F. Greening; standing committee, F. H. Townsend, P. McDonough and Ed Bartlett. The present officers are: Foreman, W. A. Nolan; assistant, Theo. Bratrud; secretary and treasurer, E. F. Greening.

The Grand Meadow Cemetery is suitably located, and well cared for. On March 11, 1873, a meeting of citizens was held, and various sums were subscribed for the purchase of a cemetery. Temporary officers were appointed as follows: President, O. W. Case; treasurer, L. E. Pearce; secretary, B. F. Langworthy. A committee of three, consisting of O. W. Case, H. P. Coleman and William Lewis was appointed to draft the by-laws. The Grand Meadow Cemetery Association was then formally organized, the directors being O. W. Case, B. F. Langworthy, L. E. Pearce, A. R. Austin, C. F. Greening, N. C. Markham and William Lewis. C. F. Greening was the first actuary. The first burial was probably that of Arthur Wood, October 7, 1873. The present officers are: President, John Peterson; treasurer and actuary, C. F. Greening; secretary, Philip T. Elliott; C. W. Martin, A. D. Moore, L. M. Lindsley and W. P. Lewis.

Grand Meadow Library. In November, 1883, the sum of \$64 was raised by subscription among the citizens of the place for the beginning of a public library. Of this amount, the village council gave \$10, in order to carry out the design. An association was formed, with the following officers: Rev. G. B. Caple, president; W. W. Ranney, librarian; Mrs. H. B. Sheldon and Mrs. H. B. Martin, directors.

The library is now in a flourishing condition, and has rooms over the postoffice. The present officers are: President, F. H. Armstrong; secretary and treasurer, A. T. Keeler; Mrs. U. P.

Peyton, Clare Peterson, Mrs. C. F. Greening, W. D. Lockwood, Dr. R. S. Mitchell and P. F. Elliott.

Home Telephone Company. C. F. Greening, banker of Grand Meadow, was a pioneer in the telephone business. He built a little line for family use. In 1898 some of his neighbors wanted to have telephones connected to his line. Incidentally he connected up a few telephones. He did not realize, at the time, that he was laying the cornerstone for the great telephone industry. He added telephones to his exchange until he had nearly three hundred telephones in Grand Meadow and Dexter. In 1906 he sold his telephone system to the Home Telephone Company, which was organized that year. C. F. Greening was elected secretary of this new company; W. H. Goodsel, president; and Martin Axness, general manager. The company sold the Dexter exchange to the Dexter Telephone Company and the business grew so that the Grand Meadow Exchange had over three hundred telephones in 1911. The company owns half interest in the toll lines connecting the neighboring towns: Racine, Stewartville, Spring Valley, LeRoy, Ostrander, Adams, Elkton, and Dexter.

The Nolan Auto Company is one of the important concerns of Grand Meadow. It is said that the company sells more automobiles than any other agency in this part of the state. An excellent garage and warehouse is maintained, and the members of the company have put much energy and ability into its management. The officers are: President, W. A. Nolan; secretary, G. T. Torggrimson; treasurer, G. A. Wright.

The Farmers' Grain Company. This company, which does a general grain, coal and feed business, was organized March 16, 1907, and purchased the old Ripley elevator building. The first officers were: President, C. L. Schroeder; vice president, Henry Corcoran; secretary, G. A. Wright; treasurer, R. E. Crane; A. Lybeck, H. Neuman; F. M. Higbie, George W. Coon, Jr. S. V. Moen was the buyer. The present officers are: President, F. M. Higbie; vice president, M. H. Corcoran; W. H. Goodsell, C. L. Schroeder. Edward Christgau is the buyer.

Grand Meadow Coöperative Butter and Cheese Association. This creamery is one of the oldest in Minnesota. It was organized March 14, 1889, and built a creamery at once. The first officers were: President, A. D. Moore; vice president, William Seabern; secretary, O. E. Low; treasurer, E. Torggrimson; H. J. Lockwood, L. M. Lindsley, O. K. Lestrud, P. E. Peterson, C. J. Higbie. The present officers are: President, A. G. Dalen; vice president, L. N. Lindsley; secretary and treasurer, G. A. Wright; George F. Brown, S. J. Olson, W. H. Goodsell, John Krause and John Joyce, Jr. The creamery does a large trade and enjoys a wide patronage.

Grand Meadow Creamery Association. This organization was perfected February 4, 1882, with A. B. Lindsay, president; C. F. Greening, treasurer; H. M. Lovell, secretary. Business was started with a stock capital of \$3,000. A suitable building was at once erected, and furnished with the most approved machinery, run by a steam engine of fifteen-horsepower. In the autumn of 1883, a feed mill was added, at a cost of \$500. A dividend of 10 per cent was declared on June 1, 1884, leaving a sufficient capital to carry on the business. In 1883, from the milk of about seven hundred cows, were made 90,000 pounds of butter, which was sold for \$21,000. This association did not prove a success, and the building is now used by Lars Frankson as a feed mill.

GRAND MEADOW HIGH SCHOOL.

Independent School District, No. 77, was organized in 1872. The first schoolhouse was built in the southeast quarter of block 25, Proprietors addition to the village, and at the present time the district owns the whole block. The first site was donated to the district by the townsite proprietors, so long as it shall be used for school purposes. The balance of the block has been acquired since at various times by purchase. The original school house was a one-story, 14x20, frame building without ceiling or plaster, and unpainted. This was used for the first year and the first teacher was Lizzie Anker, of Frankford township. In 1863 a new building was erected at a cost of \$2,000 by G. W. Lore and Louis Lutenberger, under contract between District 77 and D. B. Colman, and was paid for with district bonds drawing twelve per cent interest. The building was used until 1894, when, becoming overcrowded, it was sold to John Hudson, who moved it down onto Second street, where it was burned in the great fire of 1900. A new building was erected during 1894, of four rooms, by John Kingsley, of Chatfield, was occupied the same fall, and was burned January 24, 1895, the fire originating in the hot air pipes. School was in session at the time and the flames and smoke developed so suddenly that had it not been for the splendid discipline and fire drill of the scholars, under Prof. P. C. Tonning (now assistant state superintendent of schools), many of the pupils must have been injured, if not killed in escaping from the upper rooms. As it was, most of the furniture, books and supplies were destroyed. With the energy and resourcefulness of Professor Tonning, the school was in session again three days after, in the town hall and two churches (Methodist and Congregational), as though nothing had happened. Another building was erected on the same site and of the same dimensions as the one burned during the summer of 1895, and school again

opened in September of that year. This was operated until 1903, when, it becoming so crowded, a special school meeting was called February 20, for the purpose of voting on the question of organizing as an independent school district. Out of fifty-five votes cast, but two were in opposition.

Another special meeting was held April 27, 1903, for the purpose of voting on a proposition to build an addition to the present school and to inaugurate the state high school system. The vote stood fifty-six for and fifty-four against the proposition. It was then voted to issue \$6,000 of school bonds for the purpose of erecting the new building. The vote stood fifty-two in favor and eight against the proposition. Plans were drawn and the contract let to Tosten A. Stenvig, of Harmony, Minnesota, for the sum of \$3,450, the basement for \$583, and the steam heating plant for \$1,965, or a total of \$5,998. The building was completed in time to hold the fall term of school as a state high school, and has so continued to the present time. The value of the school property at the last annual meeting was something over \$14,000. All the high school branches are now being taught, with a corps of eight teachers. Under the able management of Prof. W. A. Alexander, an agricultural course has been added to the regular studies, and for all of the drawbacks from the dry season, our students carried off many prizes at the county fair in 1910 for their garden products. The present school board consists of Hon. W. A. Nolan, president; Philip T. Elliott, secretary; C. F. Greening, treasurer (for last thirty-five years); S. P. Hambleton, Martin Sorom and G. T. Torgrimson. The faculty consists of the following: Superintendent, Prof. W. A. Alexander; principal, Villa Harris; assistant principal, Gladys Putnam; eighth grade, Nellie Keenan; seventh grade, Irene Warren; fifth and sixth grades, Grace F. Leonard; third and fourth grades, Emma Warren; first and second grades, Eva Barber; janitor, Anton Odden. Nine months school is always held, with an average attendance of about 200. Grand Meadow is justly proud of her high school.

SOCIETIES.

Booth Post No. 130, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R. January 23, 1885, sixteen of the "old boys" met in the skating rink and organized as a Grand Army post. Lieut. W. W. Ranney, Capt. Albert Swift, and Alfred Lounsbury, of Post 11, Brownsdale, acted as mustering officers, and Booth Post 130 was duly instituted, and added to the department rolls. W. W. Ranney being a resident of Grand Meadow, brought his transfer card and was duly mustered in as one of the charter members. Booth Post was named after one of the boy soldiers of Hamilton,

in Fillmore county, who went to the war, and gave his all, his life, for the country. The charter members are as follows: H. B. Sheldon, Company I, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; A. J. Scribner, Company I, Sixth Missouri Volunteer Infantry; W. W. Ranney, lieutenant, Company A, Twenty-sixth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry; James F. Carson, Company —, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry; Oliver Lewis, Company K, Forty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; C. F. Greening, Company A, Eleventh, and Company H, Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; R. A. Donaldson, Company K, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery; H. H. Hartley, Company E, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; J. W. Farquar, Company C, Twelfth United States Infantry, and Company D, Brackett's Battalion, Minnesota Cavalry; C. P. Gladen, Company —, One Hundred and Sixth New York Volunteer Infantry; A. J. Stewart, Company A, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; Benjamin Wright, Company C, Twenty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; E. O. Hovda, Company K, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery; C. N. Bostwick, Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; Nels. Seaverson, Company K, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery; N. S. Green, Company A, Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Of the above named sixteen charter members, all have answered the "last roll call" except four—Lieut. W. W. Ranney, A. J. Scribner, C. F. Greening, and Benjamin Wright. The following were the first officers of the post: Commander, H. B. Sheldon; senior vice commander, C. P. Gladden; junior vice commander, R. A. Donaldson; adjutant, W. W. Ranney; surgeon, A. J. Scribner; chaplain, C. N. Bostwick; quartermaster, C. F. Greening; O. D., A. J. Stewart; O. G., Benjamin Wright; S. M., N. S. Green; quartermaster sergeant, H. H. Hartley.

The first representative to a state encampment was C. P. Gladen. John Espenscheid, who was one of the early recruits to the post, was the first member to answer the "last roll call." He passed away on November 10, 1885. The first memorial services were held in the Methodist church on Sunday, May 23, 1887. Rev. Allen delivered the address, assisted by Rev. Colwell, of the Congregational church. Memorial Sunday has been kept ever since, first by the Methodist society, and then the Congregational society, alternately. In the fall of 1889, the mothers, wives and daughters of soldiers organized a Woman's Relief Corps, Booth Corps No. 62, and justly proud the post is, of that splendid auxiliary. Their main aim seems to be to aid the suffering and needy. August 17, 1891, it was decided to build a home for the post and corps. A subscription list was circulated, and in ten days \$523 had been secured. The building was started, and the beautiful little home was completed and occupied the same fall.

That noble body of women composing the W. R. C., donated the sum of \$115 towards the new home. At the first meeting in the new building, it was unanimously voted that the post hall should never be used for any purpose except for the meetings of the post and corps, so long as the post survived. That agreement has been religiously kept, and will be kept so long as the post exists, and thanks to the W. R. C., we have the neatest and cleanest post hall in the state that we have seen. On the completion of the building it was found that we were free from debt, and no debt has ever been held against the post. With no rent to pay, we have always had a nice balnee in the treasury, both general and relief funds. At a meeting of the post in January, 1906, the question was discussed as to what should be done with the hall when the post ceased to exist. It was unanimously voted that the trustees of the post should at once execute a deed of the property, running to the trustees of the W. R. C., and their successors in office, as a mark of love and esteem to that band of women who had been our helpers for so long. The deed was duly executed and is held in escrow so long as the post holds its organization. And when the numbers are so few that the post ceases to exist, the survivors are to place the deed on record and deliver to our successors, the Woman's Relief Corps, to do with as they may deem best, well knowing that the little home will never be disgraced or used for a wrong purpose. There have been associated with the post during its twenty-six years of life, sixty-three members, twenty-eight of whom are known to have died, twenty-one have been granted cards, or have moved away, and fourteen still remain in good standing. C. F. Greening has been its quartermaster for the whole twenty-six years, and in 1908 was elected at the state encampment to the office of senior vice commander of the Department of Minnesota. The post meetings are held the first Saturday of the month, in the afternoon. The W. R. C. meets every other Saturday. The present officers are: Commander, Benjamin Wright; senior vice commander (vacant, by the death of J. W. Farquar, in December, 1910); junior vice commander, A. W. Thornhill; adjutant, M. B. Johnson; quartermaster, C. F. Greening; surgeon, A. J. Scribner; chaplain, D. C. Sanborn; O. D., George Nugent; patriotic instructor, M. B. Johnson; O. G. (vacant, by death of Amirand Finhart); S. M., G. D. Pierce; quartermaster sergeant (vacant, by death of G. W. Hayes).

Meadow Camp, No. 1918, M. W. A., was organized February 14, 1893, with the following officers: George A. Correll, V. C.; William J. Smith, W. A.; clerk, K. J. Weeks; banker, John J. Weeks, Jr. The other members, L. D. Bentler, F. L. Dean, Dr. F. O'Connor, H. A. Phillips, F. H. Townsend and T. M. Stewart,

also held minor offices. The present officers are: V. C., W. A. Alexander; W. A., A. F. Dettloff; C., W. Higbie; B., G. T. Torgimson; physician, R. S. Mitchell.

Meadow Lodge, No. 121. A. F. and A. M., was organized by dispensation in 1875. The first officers were M. O. Wilsie, W. M.; C. F. Greening, S. W.; S. S. Bacon, secretary; W. H. Bentley, treasurer; F. R. Warner, S. D.; A. Keith, J. D. A charter was issued and the lodge constituted February 11, 1876. M. O. Wilsie was master until 1879. Following him in order came: F. E. Minier, M. O. Wilsie, Geo. F. Goodwin, M. O. Wilsie, W. F. Bentley, J. W. Barber, W. A. Nolan, G. W. Day, Geo. A. Correll, G. A. Wright, M. O. Wilsie and E. F. Greening. The present officers are: M. W., E. F. Greening; J. W., Erick Lund; treasurer, Philip Schleiger; secretary, P. F. Elliott; S. D., C. E. Martin; J. D., August Dettloff; S. S., C. W. Higbie; J. S., F. H. Townsend; tyler, A. J. Biederbeck.

Mecca Chapter, No. 162, O. E. S., was instituted in December, 1904, and is in a flourishing condition, having been of much material assistance to the Masonic body here.

The ladies have a flourishing W. C. T. U. lodge here. The I. O. O. F. lodge has surrendered its charter, and the members now affiliate with the lodge at Racine.

RELIGIOUS.

The first sermon in the village was preached in a saloon by Rev. A. Oleson, Norwegian Methodist minister. At a subsequent date a sermon was preached in Coleman's drug store by one Elder White, an eccentric man, of what denomination cannot now be stated. For some time religious exercises were held in the railroad depot.

First Congregational Church. This church was organized April 15, 1878, and the church was built in 1885, the parsonage being erected just ten years later. The first pastor was the Rev. Cyrus Stone. Following him came H. J. Colwell, A. L. Brown, D. E. Smith, Mrs. H. M. Mullenix, T. W. Minnie, Benjamin James, James Oakey, E. C. Lyons, C. E. Bain. The present pastor is the Rev. John A. Hughes, who also served the congregation at Dexter. The clerk of the church is E. J. van Bronkhorst. The deacons are E. F. Greening, W. D. Lockwood and L. M. Lindsley. The treasurer is E. F. Greening and the Sunday school superintendent is Mrs. W. A. Nolan.

First Methodist Episcopal. The Methodists agitated the subject of building a church at an early day, but took no active measure until 1883, when they purchased a lot at a nominal price and proceeded to collect the necessary funds for building. They

then had a convenient and comely house of worship. Rev. W. H. Barkaloo, 1877-78; Rev. Mr. Mattson, 1879; Rev. W. R. Washborn, 1880; Rev. W. Copp, 1881-82, and Rev. G. R. Caple, 1883-84, were among the early pastors. A parsonage was erected some fifteen years ago. The present pastor is the Rev. E. L. Quien, who also serves the Hoppin church, so called.

St. Peter's German Lutheran Church. German services have been held in this vicinity since the earliest days. In 1903 the church incorporated and purchased a church building from the Norwegian Lutherans. The congregation is in a flourishing condition and is served by the Rev. Bernard Thier, who is also pastor of the German church in Racine township.

Grand Meadow Catholic Church. The Catholic church was erected in 1879 under the care of Father Hurley, of Austin. The first religious services for Catholics in Grand Meadow were held by Father Pendegast in 1858, in section 13, at the house of Arthur McNally, in section 13. Fathers McDermott and Keller served in the early days. The present pastor is Rev. Henry Germinder, of Spring Valley. Plans are now under way for the erection of a fine new church. The building committee consists of John Rahilly and Thomas J. Grimes. The trustees are Henry Corcoran and James McDonough.

The Grand Meadow Evangelic Lutheran Church had its beginning in the early seventies when meetings were held in the village for the benefit of families who had moved in from the Bear Creek church neighborhood. The church was organized March 26, 1876, at the house of Jens Jorgensen. A church was built a short time afterward. The first preacher was the Rev. P. G. Ostby from Austin. The organizers of the church were: O. E. Loe, Jens Jorgensen, O. B. Larson, C. Anderson, H. C. Anderson, A. D. Samso, A. Hansen, Peter Clausen, Peter Nilsen and Peter Madsen. The directors were Jens Jorgensen, O. E. Loe, and A. D. Samso. Interest in this church waned. June 7, 1893, a corporation was formed with A. E. Hovda, secretary, P. E. Peterson, treasurer, and John Skyburg and A. D. Samso directors. This corporation purchased the old church. Services were held in this edifice until 1902, when it was decided to sell it to the German Lutherans. The present church was dedicated in the fall of 1903. The pastor of the church is the eloquent and able Rev. A. H. Gjevre, of Bear Creek. The church holds a school one month during the summer, and has a fine Sunday school and Ladies' Aid society. The present officers are: Secretary, C. E. Hovda; treasurer, E. E. Myhre; directors, T. M. Lokke, Andrew Myhre and H. A. Boe.

A Scandinavian Methodist church was organized in Grand Meadow township in 1866, by Rev. P. A. Bireh. About eight fam-

ilies composed the congregation. A church and parsonage were built at a cost of \$1,200. This congregation has gone out of existence and the church edifice is now used as a residence.

CATASTROPHES.

During the years in which this village has had an existence, it has been visited by several destructive fires. The losses by the first ones were a railroad tank in 1873, a house owned by Robert Magary, occupied by M. F. Vining, and a barn with horses owned by R. McCloskey. The next was much more serious, and resulted in losses as follows: F. M. Pierson, dwelling, \$800, no insurance; Geo. F. Goodwin, office building, \$150; F. M. Pierson, saloon building, \$200; Daniel Heising, saloon building, \$1,000; R. Dunbar, postoffice building, \$300; J. C. Easton, meat market building, \$100; August Fischer, dwelling and shops, \$300; P. A. Huss, building and household goods, \$800; S. S. Baken, building, \$1,500, and a portion of stock, probably \$1,000; M. H. Fjeldstad, building, \$1,500; W. W. Ranney, a portion of stock and household goods, probably \$1,500. There were various smaller losses, probably footing up another \$1,000, making a grand total of \$10,100 swept away in an hour. Of this about \$6,000 was covered by insurance.

Grand Meadow was visited by a serious fire May 16, 1900. The loss was about \$25,000, partly covered by an insurance of \$10,000. the losers being C. F. Greening, W. A. Nolan, P. Schleiger, John Lindelin, A. D. Moore, C. T. Bussell, C. E. Lawrence, Geo. F. Barnard, John Criswell, Johnson & Jones, E. W. Bartlett, N. Elliott, H. C. Thiel, S. E. Ellesson, G. Hestad and M. David. The fire was discovered by George Goodsell, but had obtained such headway that it was impossible to check the blaze even by the use of dynamite. The buildings destroyed constituted the principal business portion of the city. This has been completely rebuilt with good substantial brick buildings.

CHAPTER XXIX.**RED ROCK AND BROWNSDALE.**

Red Rock Township—Early Settlement—First Events—Organization—Brownsdale Village—Organization—Early Business—Serious Water Spout—Brownsdale in 1871—Brownsdale in 1885—Modern Brownsdale—Fraternities, Churches and Industries—Edited by Hosmer A. Brown.

Red Rock township lies in the second tier from the north and west. The township is well watered, three sufficient streams supplying an abundance of that needful element. Roberts creek enters the town from Waltham, in section 3, runs in its tortuous course through sections 4, 5 and 6, from where it leaves the township. The north branch of Dobbins creek finds its way to the township in section 13, runs in its varied course through sections 24, 23, 22, 15, 16, 21, 28, 29, 30 and 31, from which section it enters Lansing township. The south branch of Dobbins creek rises in section 26, runs in a southwesterly course through sections 35, 27 and 34, and leaves the town at section 33, re-enters the township in the same section, running through section 32, and leaves the township at the southeast corner of section 31. The natural timber follows the course of the streams, but so many groves have sprung up, under the fostering care of the settler, that the general appearance is of a well wooded country. The general inclination of the land is rolling, and is usually good arable land. Whatever land there is that is low and wet furnishes such long succulent grasses, making fine pasturage for stock, that but little, if any, land can be called waste. The soil is generally a dark sandy loam with a clay subsoil, and contains all the elements of fertility to a very large extent.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first to settle in the township of Red Rock were three families of Norwegians, Gunder Nereson, a man named Olson and one other, who came here in the spring of 1855. Nereson and Olson settled in section 3, and the other on section 10. They joined teams and broke across the three claims that season. Their cabins, about 10x12 feet, were built of small poles, covered with prairie sod. They remained here until the spring of 1856, when Hilliard Tilton purchased Nereson's claim, together with

forty acres of timber land, for which he paid \$300, \$100 for the claim and \$200 for the forty acres of timber. Olson sold his claim to John L. Johnson, and the other Norwegian sold to Charles F. Hardy. Having thus disposed of all their land they left the township, going across the country to the Minnesota river. They were well to do for new settlers. They took with them when they left the township, seventy head of cattle. Gunder Nereson and a daughter of Olson, were the only ones among the Norwegians who could talk English. They are remembered as being very hospitable.

John L. Johnson came to the town of Lansing in company with A. B. Vaughan, in 1855, when he took a claim and did some breaking, after which he returned to Rock county, Wisconsin, for his family. On his return to Lansing he found his claim had been jumped. He then came to Red Rock township and built a shanty in Red Rock grove in section 4. The name of the grove was suggested to Mr. Johnson by a large red rock in the grove, the only one of the kind to be found for miles around. His family moved into the shanty the last of November, and the following spring moved from the grove into a shanty on the land in section 10, purchased of a Norwegian. In this shanty in August, 1856, was born the first white child in the township, Minna, a daughter of John L. Johnson, her name being given in honor of the territory where her parents had so lately found a home. The family remained here until 1876, when they removed to Washington. Martin B. Johnson came to Red Rock with his brother, John L., October 18, 1855. Mr. Johnson enlisted in the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in 1862, serving until the close of the war. Hilliard Tilton, Elijah Sanborn and Hilliard S. Brown, came from Fremont, New Hampshire, to Decorah, Iowa, where they formed the acquaintance of Charles F. Hardy. He had lately returned from Minnesota, and being somewhat familiar with the country they induced him to accompany them here. When they reached Jordan, Fillmore county, they hired him to act as guide to the belt of timber in Red Rock township, where they arrived March 7, 1856. Mr. Tilton purchased land in section 3. Elijah Sanborn preëmpted land in section 3, in the spring of 1856. The first death in the township was that of his daughter, Calista Sanborn, who died of fever early in December, 1856. His wife died of consumption in August, 1857. They were both buried on the farm near the house. In the summer of 1863 their remains were disinterred and buried in Greenwood cemetery. Mr. Sanborn returned to New Hampshire. Rev. Milo Frary, a Baptist clergyman, came here from North Stonningham, Connecticut, in the fall of 1856. The house he built and occupied on Main street,

Brownsdale, has been torn down. He preached quite regularly in the school house in the village. He remained here until after the death of his wife, when he returned to Connecticut. Freeman M. Brown was born in Caledonia county, Vermont, came to Mower county in October, 1856, and settled in section 27, in Red Rock township. H. S. Brown also took a claim in section 3, adjoining that of Mr. Sanborn. On this he built a log house, which he occupied until the summer of 1870, when he exchanged his land for a building in the village of Brownsdale, where he opened a hotel, in which business he continued until the spring of 1884, when he removed to Grand Meadow. John Setzer and family came from Shenandoah county, Virginia, to Red Rock township, in 1856, locating on section 3, where he resided until his death, July 17, 1863. His wife died February 22, 1875. Nehemiah Woodward came from Vermont in the spring of 1856, locating on the southwest quarter of section 3. He died in April, 1870. Rudolphus Heath came here in the summer of 1856, from Marquette county, Wisconsin. He established the first nursery of fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs in the township. He also built a large house on Main street, used for a time for a hotel, called the Heath House. He moved to LaPorte City, Iowa, in 1865. John L. Lishen, a Free Will Baptist clergyman, came from Marquette county, Wisconsin, in 1856, preached here for a few years, when he moved to Iowa. N. R. Hoadly came from near Binghampton, New York, in the summer of 1856, preëmpted land and remained here two or three years, when he returned to his former home. In the spring of 1871 he came back with his wife was here about two years when he returned to New York state. Leland B. Lewis came from New Hampshire, in the spring of 1856. He settled on section 27, remained here until 1880, when with his family he moved to Martin county. Abram E. Howard came from Iowa, in 1856, and located a claim in section 2. He was a surveyor, having been in the employ of the government. He remained here two or three years and then went to Colorado.

Among others who came in 1856 were: L. J. Ellsworth, Henry C. Rogers, H. A. Brown, George M. Cameron, J. Y. Gilmore, William O. Palmer, from Nova Scotia; Henry Shook, from Ohio; James Stewart, from Ohio; E. J. Stimson, J. D. Rugg, from New York; J. B. Wright, George Colby, from New Hampshire, who located in section 5 for a short time, and J. D. Lean, from New Hampshire, who settled in section 28.

I. N. Hine came in 1857, and that same year came Harvey E. Anderson, Alden Petty, Orrin J. Hills, Zalmon Ames and others. Ebenezer E. Tanner and De Los Tanner came in 1857, and Samuel Dodge came at about the same time.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage in the township was that of Hiliard Tilton and Miss Mary E. Setzer, at the residence of the bride's parents in Brownsdale, October 1, 1857, by Charles F. Hardy, a justice of the peace. Both came to Red Rock in 1857. The first birth was that of Minna, daughter of J. L. Johnson. The first death was that of Calista, daughter of Elijah Sanborn.

ORGANIZATION.

The first election within the present limits of Red Rock was held in the house of John Anson, in Brownsdale, in the fall of 1856, sixteen votes being cast. At that time Red Rock precinct extended over a considerable territory. The town was organized May 11, 1858, but no records have been preserved of the first town meetings. Various townships were attached to it for government purposes, as related elsewhere. The town owns a fine town hall in the center of the township.

BROWNSDALE.

The village of Brownsdale was laid out in sections 9 and 10, township 103, range 17, in the summer of 1856, by A. D. and H. A. Brown and John L. Johnson, who had M. K. Armstrong survey and plat about 160 acres. Brown Bros. soon purchased the interest of J. L. Johnson, and became sole proprietors. The village grew rapidly for a year or two, and then remained nearly stationary until the advent of the Southern Minnesota in 1871. It is now a flourishing village.

INCORPORATION.

The village of Brownsdale was incorporated by an act of the legislature, in February, 1876. By this act O. A. Sleeper, J. C. Sanborn and A. D. Brown were made judges. The first election was held at the store of A. L. Sleeper & Sons, on March 14, 1876. At this meeting C. S. Barbour was chosen moderator and W. S. Woodard clerk. The officers elected at this meeting were as follows: Councilmen, H. H. Shook (president), H. J. Sprague, B. F. Bacon; recorder, O. A. Sleeper; treasurer, E. J. Stimson; justice of the peace, A. D. Brown; assessor, Stephen Ives; marshal, J. N. Priest.

EARLY BUSINESS.

The first store in Brownsdale was opened by John L. Johnson in the summer of 1856, in a small frame building at the corner of Main and Mill streets. He kept a stock of groceries and such

merchandise as is usually found at a country store. In the spring of 1857 he took H. E. Anderson as a partner, enlarging his stock and increasing his business. The partnership continued for a year or two, when the building was purchased by Barney Devclin, and by him converted into a residence, which he occupied only for a short time, when it was removed to the town of Waltham for a farm house.

The first boot and shoe store was built for Thomas Alred, in 1857. He occupied it as a place of business for several years, when he removed with his family to Winona, and the building was moved out into the country. Mr. Alred did not remain long in Winona. On his return he erected another store on Main street. He was in business here until the spring of 1871, when he moved to Nashua, Iowa. William F. Smith came from Dunkirk, New York, to Brownsdale, sometime in 1856, when he engaged in mercantile business. He served through the war in the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. In the summer of 1857, L. J. Ellsworth had a frame building erected on the corner of Market and Main streets, where he kept a stock of groceries and provisions. He continued in business but a short time, disposing of his stock to John Dunton, who was in business but a few months, when he sold out to W. F. Smith, who kept a general grocery store. He continued in business until 1861, when he was succeeded by C. H. Coates, who kept a general stock of merchandise, dry goods, groceries, etc. In the spring of 1866 he entered into partnership with H. E. Anderson. This continued until the spring of 1868, when they sold out to L. J. Ellsworth, who occupied the store until 1871, when it was purchased by V. Richards, of Austin, Mr. Ellsworth moving his goods into a larger and more commodious store he had erected in the same block. Mr. Richards used the store as a harness shop, also as a residence for his family. It was destroyed by fire on New Year's Eve, 1873, the family being absent at the time.

One of the first buildings erected in Brownsdale was a steam saw mill, built by A. D. and H. A. Brown, the necessary machinery being shipped to Homer, a small place just below Winona, on the Mississippi river. From there it was brought by oxen, under as discouraging circumstances as one could well imagine—no roads, no bridges, the ground soft and streams swollen from frequent and heavy rains. The mill was soon in running order and furnished the people for miles around with lumber to commence building their homes. It was run for several years, until timber began to grow scarce, when it was sold and taken to some place in the western part of the state. Nearly all the first buildings erected in the town were built of hard wood lumber sawed in that mill.

The first cat that ever was in the village was bought in Winona and rode across the prairie in the boiler of that mill.

The first hotel in Brownsdale was erected in the fall of 1856, by H. A. Brown, the lumber being sawed at the mill of Brown Bros. It was mostly built of hard wood, oak, ash and walnut. The building was inclosed, and John L. Johnson opened it as a hotel about December the same year. He occupied it until the following spring, when he was succeeded by E. J. Stimson, who was followed by C. H. Coates, and later by Andrew D. Brown, and others. The present hotel proprietor in Brownsdale is C. D. Hollbrook.

Thomas Alred came to Brownsdale in 1856, and entered into the manufacture and sale of boots and shoes. He was justice of the peace for several years.

Benjamin F. Bacon commenced trade here in 1865, keeping a stock of dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, etc. His store was located on the northeast corner of Main and Mill streets. He continued in business until December 24, 1872, when the building was destroyed by fire, a small portion only of the contents being saved. Mr. Bacon had a fine brick building erected on the site of the other, in which he carried on the mercantile business until 1880. His store was rented for a short time only to I. C. Thatcher. In the spring of 1870 Messrs. Bacon and L. J. Ellsworth were the only merchants in the village. The S. M. R. R. was built through the town that summer, and Herman Gunz, of Austin, rented the new and until then unoccupied store of L. J. Ellsworth, stocking it with general merchandise. Mr. Gunz remained in business only a few months, moving his goods to Wells.

The first hardware store was built on Mill street, for H. J. Sprague, who came here from Bellevue, Iowa, in the spring of 1871. He kept a large stock of hardware, and had an extensive business until failing health obliged him to relinquish it. He sold the store and contents to Ira Jones, of Austin, in the summer of 1872. In 1873, about a year later, the stock was sold to Rufus Kimball, and the succeeding summer was sold to Stimson & Woodward. They were in business but a few months, when in 1875 they sold the stock at about \$1,800 to T. K. Dahle, of Rochester, who also purchased the building they occupied of Ira Jones.

In the spring of 1871, John Aten, of Bellevue, Iowa, built a store on the lot adjoining H. J. Sprague. He occupied one half as a grocery store, renting one half to A. L. Sleeper & Sons, for the sale of drugs. Mr. Aten did a large and successful business. In the summer of 1876, he associated with himself John Muncey, of Bellevue, under the name of Aten & Muncey. The new firm

extended their business, building a warehouse for the purchase of grain, hides, etc., and opened a lumber yard near the railroad depot. In the summer of 1876 their warehouse was destroyed by fire. This they at once replaced by building a fine elevator. They continued their business until 1878, when Mr. Aten sold his store to A. H. Marsh, and in 1880 sold his elevator to Cargill Bros., of LaCrosse.

The first furniture store was built by Jas. N. Priest, of Preston, Minnesota, who occupied it until the winter of 1872, when, becoming dissatisfied, he disposed of his stock and rented his store to the firm of Warren Bros. They continued business but a few months, selling out in the spring of 1873 to A. L. Sleeper & Sons, who removed their drugs from the store of John Aten, thus adding groceries to their former business.

A. L. Sleeper came from Vermont to Brownsdale in 1862. His sons became associated with him in business in 1871. The story of the Sleeper enterprises is told in their biographies.

John C. Sanborn opened the first butcher shop in Brownsdale in 1871. He sold out to Billings & Robinson and then for some time engaged in the sale of agricultural implements.

In the spring of 1872 Samuel Dundee, of Belfast, Ireland; Herman Gunz, of Austin, and Harvey E. Austin, of Brownsdale, entered into a partnership known as the Brownsdale Bagging Company, their object being the manufacture of coarse cloth from flax, suitable for encasing cotton bales. For this purpose a large stone building was erected, called the "Brownsdale Bagging Company," the stone being brought from Fountain for its construction. The machinery, which was quite intricate, was brought from Belfast, where Mr. Dundee had been engaged in similar business. For a time the enterprise promised success. Many of the farmers in the vicinity pledged themselves to raise flax, an amount being contracted to the company sufficient to supply all demands. But a poor crop of flax, together with the removal of the duty on jute, so disheartened the company that they abandoned operations after sustaining no small pecuniary loss. In the spring of 1875 the mill was sold to "Marston Bros. & Lawrence," the firm consisting of Frank Lawrence, of Vermont, and his stepsons, George Marston, of Cincinnati, and Edwin Marston, of Austin, by whom new machinery was purchased, converting it into a flouring mill. This did not prove a financial success and the mill was sold by them a year later to H. E. Anderson and A. I. Brown, who manufactured flour for a year or two. It was used as a flouring mill by various persons with varied success until 1882, when the machinery was sold to S. Alderson, of Austin, and removed to Hampton, Iowa.

SERIOUS WATER SPOUT.

A water spout occurred three and a half miles east of Brownsdale, June 20, 1874. About fifteen inches of water fell in a short time, washing away one of the abutments to a railroad bridge. A passenger train passed over the bridge safely, but a freight train was not so fortunate, and the engine and nine cars broke through. The engineer, J. D. Brown, was badly injured, and the fireman, M. J. Cummings, was killed.

BROWNSDALE IN 1871.

In 1871, Brownsdale had the following improvements: Twenty-five dwellings, including three boarding houses, and five portions of stores used as dwellings; eleven buildings used for mercantile and manufacturing purposes, including one flax factory, one wagon shop, one hardware store, one grocery store, three of general merchandise, one harness shop, one boot and shoe and millinery shop, one butcher shop, one saloon, and a postoffice building; five buildings for the handling of grain, including one elevator, and four warehouses—two of these, however, having been destroyed by fire during the winter—a church and public school house; two lumber yards and a flax factory were also in operation.

BROWNSDALE IN 1885.

In the fall of 1885, Brownsdale had two churches, Baptist and Christian, a well laid out cemetery, a postoffice and a school. The following were the business men of the village at that time: G. W. Gray, F. M. Johnson, physicians; A. J. Hunt, attorney and real estate; E. J. Stimson, postmaster; A. L. Sleeper, B. F. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, merchants; T. K. Dahle, hardware dealer; R. W. Stowe, dealer in farm machinery; Ole Hanson, Peter Stendel, blacksmith; Jens Jepsen, wagon maker; Chas. L. Knox, meat market; P. L. Kramer, furniture dealer; Paul Hinze, boot and shoe store; W. D. Miner, hotel and livery; G. E. Rolph, J. Winans, refreshments; C. L. Colman, Hodges & Hyde, Cargill Bros., Wiggins & Davis, grain dealers; Charles Gage, insurance agent; J. B. Graves, Steve Ires, J. N. Thatcher, A. Swift, contractors; Mrs. V. A. Lamb, dressmaker; Mrs. Susan L. Foward, Mrs. Jane Sanborn, milliners; Prof. W. G. Elliott, Helen S. Wilder, teachers; Albert Swift, barber; A. D. Wilson, station agent; J. H. Wideman, hay dealer; M. B. Johnson, drayman; S. Peck, shooting gallery; Fred Hatch, restaurant; Caroline Cassedy, laundry; Sleeper & Sons, creamery and stock yards.

MODERN BROWNSDALE.

Brownsdale is a prosperous and busy village on the Southern Minnesota railroad, and contains some three hundred souls. It is well laid out, presents a busy appearance and has a number of prosperous business concerns. Here are found Baptist and Methodist churches, a hotel, an opera house, elevators, a creamery, fly paper factories, general stores, a school, a cornet band, a telephone exchange and a number of comfortable residences. One of the features of the landscape is the verdure which furnishes a refreshing shade in the summer months. These trees were planted from seed gathered by H. A. Brown on the banks of the Cedar river. These trees are of ash and elm, and many are now six feet in circumference. There is a fire water supply system and a pumping station also.

SOCIETIES.

Prominent among the fraternal organizations of Brownsdale are La Fayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M.; Mizpah Chapter, No. 36, O. E. S.; and the Henry Rogers Post, G. A. R.

La Fayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M., of Brownsdale, was organized under dispensation March 5, 1874. The first officers were Stephen Ives, W. M.; O. R. York, S. W.; E. W. Connor, J. W.; N. A. Sumner, secretary; John Steen, treasurer; H. Honsman, S. D.; A. McGowan, J. D.; L. L. Lamb, tyler. The lodge worked under dispensation until January 13, 1876, when a charter was issued by the Grand Lodge, under which the lodge has since been working. The charter members are Stephen Ives, O. R. York, John Hoy, A. McGowan, J. B. Graves, E. J. Stimson, A. Lonsbury and L. L. Lamb. All of these have joined the Grand Lodge above except J. B. Graves, A. Lonsbury and O. R. York. The lodge, in its first days, held their meetings in the second story of a house belonging to E. J. Stimson. They now own their large two-story building, 30x74. The upper story is used for a lodge room and dining room and the lower room for opera house. The lodge room is well equipped with furniture, carpets and organ. The dining room is furnished with dishes and silverware, due to the management of the ladies of the Eastern Star. The present membership of the order is sixty-eight. The Past Masters are Stephen Ives, N. A. Sumner, J. B. Graves, L. Kirkland, O. A. Sleeper, Charles Gage, D. L. Tanner, C. Erickson, G. W. Gray, Geo. Foster, T. F. Bacon, A. B. Warren, J. N. Thatcher, F. O. Tanner and M. J. McGowan, all of whom are alive but Stephen Ives. The lodge, since it was organized, has made 129 Master Masons. The present officers are: W. B. Sleeper, W. M.; Henry Stephenson, S. W.; S. K. Dahle, J. W.; N. K. Dahle, treasurer; J. N. Thatcher, secretary; A. B. Warren, S. D.; O. D. Lambert,

J. D.; T. F. Bacon, S. S.; U. S. Gillette, J. S.; E. P. Merrill, chaplain; C. F. Hoy, tyler.

Mizpah Chapter, No. 36, O. E. S., was organized May 22, 1888. The charter members were: H. A. Brown, J. B. Graves, E. J. Stimson, Chas. Gage, D. L. Tanner, J. N. Thatcher, John Hoy, A. B. Warren, W. B. Sleeper and the wives of each. The first officers were: Mrs. Mary L. Brown, W. M.; E. J. Stimson, W. P.; Mrs. Aurelia Thatcher, A. M.; Chas. Gage, secretary; Mrs. E. G. Tompkins, treasurer; Mrs. Lydia Stimson, C.; Mrs. Margaret Graves, A. C.; Mrs. Emma Tanner, Ada; Mrs. Percival Hoy, Ruth; Mrs. Emma Sleeper, Esther; Mrs. Anna Gage, Martha; Mrs. Emma Warren, Electa; J. N. Thatcher, W.; H. A. Brown, S. Of the charter members, E. G. Tompkins, Mr. and Mrs. Stimson, Mrs. Mary Brown, Mr. Hoy and Mrs. Tanner have been called to the "land where death comes not." The chapter has grown and prospered. There have been 109 initiated, with a present membership of seventy-four. Mizpah Chapter has always occupied the Masonic hall, and has worked in harmony with the brotherhood. The first piece of furniture the chapter bought was the organ, and it is still in use. When the Masons built and moved into their new hall it was the chapter that bought the carpet, curtains, stove and in a few years the new chairs and lamps. There is also a well equipped dining room and kitchen connected with the hall. The chapter has bought fully half the furnishings. The chapter is on a good financial basis, and socially it has been a success. There have been lasting friendships formed, and a true fraternal feeling exists between its members. Mrs. Emma Sleeper is the present W. M.; W. H. Lawrence, W. P.; Mrs. Leota Hoy, A. M.

Henry Rogers Post, G. A. R., was organized February 4, 1882. Commander R. A. Burleson, of Post No. 3, of Spring Valley, Fillmore county, was detailed to muster the new Post. The first officers were: Albert Swift, C.; Alfred Launsbury, S. V. C.; Burr Maxwell, I. V. C.; Henry Harris, S.; C. S. Beaulieu, chaplain; Charles Gage, O. D.; C. A. Warren, adjutant; M. B. Johnson, Q. M.; F. A. Carll, O. G.; N. N. Palmeter, sergeant mayor; George R. Church, Q. M. Sergeant. These, with the following, constitute the charter members: B. M. Carll, A. J. Hunt, W. W. Lamb, John Hedigard, Samuel Church, Alonzo Rose. The Post was named "Henry Rogers" in honor of the gallant services rendered by Colonel Henry C. Rogers during the rebellion, and the noble traits of character exhibited by him in after life, both as a private citizen and a public officer. The story of the monument erected to him is told elsewhere.

On February 4, 1911, twenty-nine years after its organization, twelve of its charter members were known to be living and seven

were still members of the post. Since its organization it has mustered fifty comrades, but carries on its reports at present only eleven.

Memorial Day and Memorial Sunday are still fittingly observed, and as a rule the people generally lay aside their worldly cares on these occasions and mingle with the survivors of the Civil war in paying tribute to the memory of those who struggled and those who fell to continue the life of the grandest country and the best government on earth.

In the summer of 1899 a fire occurred on the corner of Main and Mill streets, by which eight buildings were burned. In that fire the Post record book was burned. In the years following, Albert Swift served as commander until December 8, 1888, when C. A. Warren was elected and served two years. December 10, 1910, Albert Swift was again chosen to command.

CHURCHES.

Methodist Episcopal Church. The first Methodist Episcopal services in Brownsdale were held by the Rev. Moses Mapes, in the year 1856. A year later, the Rev. Mr. Dyer organized the work; Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Schimmerhorn, Mr. and Mrs. John Call and Mrs. F. M. Drown were among the charter members. Among the prominent preachers of early days, besides the two above mentioned, were the Rev. Trowbridge, Rev. David Tice and Rev. Mr. Satterlee. As yet they had no church building, services were not held regularly and the work was not very strong. In May, 1889, Rev. Robert Forbes, D. D., presiding elder at that time, reorganized the work, and Rev. H. L. St. Clair was appointed the first resident pastor. In the spring of 1890 work was begun on a new house of worship, and in the fall of 1891 the present church was finished and dedicated, during Rev. B. E. Sherwin's pastorate. In the summer of 1895, while Rev. A. McCausland was pastor, a parsonage was built. The church has maintained its place and made steady progress since its organization, being now the head of a circuit of three churches. The Brownsdale church has a membership of eighty-two with a flourishing Sunday school of 143 members. Rev. Harry W. Bedford, the present pastor, was appointed to the church in October, 1909.

First Baptist Church. In the spring of 1856, among the early settlers of the township was Rev. Milo Frary, a Baptist clergyman, from Connecticut. He seems to have been devoted to his calling, for asking little or no compensation, he preached quite regularly at the schoolhouse in Brownsdale, for two or three years. After he left, other ministers of the same denomination preached here at irregular intervals. Prominent among them was

Rev. H. I. Parker, formerly of Beaver Dam, then a resident of Austin. Rev. Mr. Parker organized a Baptist church May 26, 1867, at the residence of A. H. Marsh, consisting of the following members: A. H. Marsh, Mrs. A. H. Marsh, L. W. Thompson, Mrs. L. Edwards. At the same time the following were accepted as candidates for baptism, that rite being administered the ensuing Sunday: Lucius Edwards, E. W. Conner, Mrs. E. W. Conner. Mr. Parker continued to preach to them and at the Baptist church at Austin on alternate Sundays, until the following November, when he was succeeded by Rev. N. Whittemore, who preached to them until July, 1868, from which time the church was without a pastor until January, 1869, when Mr. Parker resumed his pastoral relations with it, continuing to preach here as before, on alternate Sundays, until the spring of 1871.

The meetings had been held in the schoolhouse, but by previous notice the citizens of Red Rock gathered at the store of B. F. Bacon on June 25, 1869, to see about the erection of a Baptist church building. As A. D. and H. A. Brown donated the corner on Oak and Main streets for a site, the soliciting committee soon reported \$1,795 subscribed, six citizens signing \$100 each and the rest signing from \$75 down to \$10. The building was erected in 1870 by J. B. Graves.

In September, 1871, Rev. Thomas Weaver was called to the pulpit. He remained with the church until October 2, 1874. From this time no regular preaching services were held in the church for several years, after which being somewhat in debt for their church building, they sold it to the Congregational society, receiving money enough to pay their indebtedness, and taking a mortgage to secure the payment of the balance. The Congregational society finding themselves unable to meet obligations, relinquished all claim on the church building, which thus came again into the possession of the Baptist society. The church has had no regular preaching until the fall of 1882, when Rev. C. D. Belden took charge of the same, holding service here once in two weeks. In January, 1884, a series of meetings was commenced by Mr. Belden and continued about six weeks, resulting in the addition of twenty-one, the membership then being thirty-four. Mr. Belden supplied the pulpit at intervals until August, 1887, when the church was supplied with new pews. From September, 1887, until May, 1888, Rev. T. S. Eigelberner supplied the pulpit. In October, 1889, W. J. Sanborn came from New Hampshire and supplied the pulpit for a year. In September, 1891, Rev. M. Stadtfelt of Byron, became pastor, remaining until April, 1893. In 1895 the residence of A. J. Hunt was purchased for a parsonage. The following have been pastors since in the order named: Rev. S. McMinis, June, 1893, to August, 1894; Rev. E. Williams,

October, 1894, to November, 1895; Rev. M. B. Critchett, November, 1896, to October, 1897; Parker Smith, January, 1898, to February, 1899; S. A. Middleton, August, 1899, to August, 1900; N. J. Lee, May, 1901, to May, 1903; J. G. Johnson, July, 1903, to March, 1904; A. L. Holden, August, 1904, to August, 1905; T. B. Frizelle, May, 1906, to January, 1908; T. M. Gilpin, December, 1909, to March 15, 1911. The church has enjoyed special services at various times until the membership now reaches ninety members.

Christian Church. The first members of the Christian church in this place were Mr. and Mrs. John Setzer and their daughter, Mary, from Virginia, who came to this state in July, 1857. The first religious services of this denomination were held in the schoolhouse in Brownsdale, June, 1858, by Elder Grant, of Brownville, Minn. A few weeks later, in July, 1858, a church was organized by Elder Charles Le Van, consisting of the following members: John Setzer, Abegal Setzer, Hilliard Tilton, Mary Tilton, Henry C. Rogers, Lydia A. Stimson, Philip Setzer, Emily Setzer, Thomas Alred, Sarah Alred, Harvey E. Anderson, Ann Anderson, Frank Wood, Barbary Rugg, Charles F. Hardy, Augusta Dunton and Amanda Setzer. During the summer of 1876 the church erected a small church edifice costing something over \$1,000. After a time the congregation was scattered. The building was sold and the money given to the Christian church at Austin.

Free Will Baptist Church. This church was organized sometime in 1859, by Rev. Mr. Reeves, of Pleasant Grove, who with Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, of Fillmore county, held a series of meetings in the schoolhouse in Brownsdale. Among the first members were: Mrs. Nehemiah Woodard, Mrs. Almeda Johnson, J. L. Leshar, Mrs. J. L. Leshar.

Rev. John L. Leshar, the first settled pastor, came from Wisconsin to this place in 1859. He preached here for several years, when he moved to Udolpho, and subsequently to Iowa. After he left, the church, never a strong one, became so reduced by removals and deaths that its organization was given up. This church was merged in the other Baptist church.

INDUSTRIES.

The Red Rock Creamery Association was incorporated in 1883 with a capital stock of \$10,000, with the following officers: President, L. Kirkland; secretary, Charles Gage; treasurer, J. B. Graves; directors, Peter Hanson, T. K. Dahl, and D. L. Tanner. Cows not being plenty, the creamery struggled along, manufacturing from 25,000 to 50,000 pounds of butter annually until 1903, when the present management took hold of it, and built it up to the present mark of 190,000 pounds a year, a record which was

reached in 1910. The present officials are: President, W. B. Sleeper; treasurer, J. B. Graves; secretary and treasurer, W. H. Lawrence; directors, H. E. Woodard, George W. Foster and A. B. Warren.

Cargill Elevator. Joe Starkey took charge of the elevator August 1, 1890, and remained in charge for three years. Earl Miner then took charge for five years, until 1898. Ralph Muncey took charge for one year, until 1899. Then Mr. Schroeder took charge for three years until 1902. Then Martin Stephenson bought the Cargill elevator and operated it until 1905, selling it to the Pierce-Stephenson Elevator Company. In 1907 Mr. Stephenson bought back the elevator and has owned it ever since. The La Crosse Grain Company, of which Mr. Stephenson is president, owns elevators at Dexter, Renova, Racine and Sargeant.

Martin Stephenson came to the United States March 28, 1877, from Denmark, and located in Brownsdale, working on the railroad until 1879. He then worked in the elevator for Bonner, Wheeler & Hyde, being in their employ for two years. Bonner & Wheeler withdrew from the company and the firm of Hodges & Hyde was organized and Mr. Stephenson was employed by this firm for ten years. Mr. Hodges then withdrew from the company and the S. Y. Hyde Elevator Company was organized and Mr. Stephenson worked for this company for fourteen years, until the Pierce-Stephenson Elevator Company was organized. This firm continued for two years, until the La Crosse Grain Company was organized, and Mr. Stephenson is now the president and manager for this company. Mr. Stephenson was married in 1881 to Caroline Thompto, five children have been born to them, Henry, Marion, Stanley, Grace, and Knute, all living.

The Hunting Elevator. Stokes and Drown built an elevator about the year 1890, and operated it for four years, when they sold out to George W. Hunt, who operated the elevator for ten years, selling out to the Hunting Elevator Company in 1904, who have operated the elevator ever since, C. M. Syck being their buyer.

Brownsdale Telephone Exchange. In 1899 while engaged in the newspaper business, L. L. Quimby conceived the idea that it would be a fine thing to have a telephone in the depot. In this the business men concurred, each purchasing their own telephone instrument and Mr. Quimby, with the financial assistance of G. M. Shortt, the depot agent, put up the line, with nine telephones on it, charging each subscriber 50 cents per month. Later Mr. Shortt sold his interest to Mr. Quimby. In the fall of 1900 the storekeeper at Mayville called for a phone and with a few farmers on between, the line was put up, George Wuertz being the first farmer to sign up. Most of the farmers were rather skeptical

at first, but it has proved to be such a good thing that nearly everyone began calling for phones. The exchange has grown so that it now embraces the villages of Lansing, Brownsdale, Waltham, Sargeant and Mayville and the farmers between, and the lines are continually being extended. Telephone rentals are \$1 per month, with night and day service and long distance connection so that the farmer can talk to the nearest market or the remotest city.

Present Business. Among the present business houses of Brownsdale may be mentioned: A. E. Warren, general merchant; State Bank of Brownsdale, N. K. Dahle, president; George M. Shortt, cashier; N. K. Dahle & Co., hardware, furniture, machinery and agricultural implements; commercial hotel, De Witt Holbrook, proprietor; C. F. Coleman Lumber Co.; M. G. Braun, city meat market; C. O. Sleeper, patent medicines, notions and groceries; Brownsdale Telephone Exchange Company, L. L. Quimby, secretary and manager; Hunting Elevator Company, grain and seeds, established in 1860, J. H. Ellsworth, president; C. E. Hunting, treasurer; D. S. Baird, secretary; C. A. Sleeper, dry goods and notions; James Fries, general blacksmithing and plow work; J. W. Dishon, shoes, harnesses, blankets and whips; La Crosse Grain Company, grain, seeds and coal, M. Stephenson, president; N. K. Dahle, vice president; George M. Shortt, secretary and treasurer; Ole Hanson, blacksmithing; J. N. Thatcher & Sons, contractors and builders; Pace & Iverson, painters and paper hangers; Mrs. Carlos Sleeper, millinery goods; Hunt & Sleeper, real estate; George Gammell, live stock and poultry; J. F. Knoz, barber; Charles Hoy, drayman; H. C. Volkmann, stone mason; A. L. Sleeper & Sons, Sleeper's Lightning Fly Poison; George Gilleland, feed mill; Red Rock Creamery Association, W. B. Sleeper, president; J. B. Graves, treasurer; W. H. Lawrence, secretary and treasurer.

DISASTROUS FIRES.

Brownsdale was visited January 9, 1880, by a fire which destroyed Cargill & Van's elevator and ruined or burned 35,000 bushels of grain, entailing a loss in all of about \$50,000.

In the summer of 1899, the village was swept by a fire which devastated the corner of Main and Mill streets and destroyed eight buildings, causing a heavy loss.

CHAPTER XXX.

LE ROY TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Location and Area—First Events—Early Settlement—Organization—Old Village—LeRoy Village—Beginning the New Village—LeRoy in 1868—Early Business—LeRoy in 1871—LeRoy in 1884—Religious—Cemeteries—Modern LeRoy—Disasters.

This is the southeast corner township of Mower county, and comprises congressional township 101 north, range 14 west. It is bounded on the north by Bennington township, on the east by Fillmore county, on the south by Howard county in Iowa, and on the west by Lodi township.

The general surface of the township is undulating prairie land, the soil of which is a dark rich loam, with sand enough in its composition to make it one of the most productive in the entire county. Along the streams for a considerable distance back there is a limestone base, with somewhat of a lighter soil, but none too much so for the production of abundant crops. The whole township is, by nature and formation, calculated for successful farming. All the grains and grasses grow in all their luxuriance.

The principal water courses of the township are the upper Iowa and its branches. The former enters the township on section 19, passing across the northeast quarter of section 30, on through sections 29, 28, 27, thence across the northeast portion of sections 34 and 35 to section 36, from which section it flows into Howard county, Iowa, and so on down to the Mississippi river. A branch of this stream drains the northern and central parts of the township and makes a confluence with the main stream on section 28.

Another everflowing stream courses through sections 30 and 31. This is known as Spring Creek, and enters the upper Iowa river from section 30. There are also numerous cold, pure springs gushing to the surface in various parts of the township. They make their appearance nearly on a level with the waters of the upper Iowa river and usually become covered by the river waters at its high stages. One peculiarly striking and valuable spring bubbles up from the earth on the northwest quarter of section 29. This is a strong mineral spring, partaking of iron. The township is amply supplied with the best of building stone. It is the best quality of limestone which is near the surface, in ledges ranging from four to eighteen inches in thickness, and extending nearly a mile back from the streams. From this stone the best of lime is burned.

SETTLEMENT.

The beginning of settlement in this township dates back to 1853, when Isaac Van Houghton, George Squires, J. S. Priest, Moses Niles and Isaac Armstrong came to a county all untried by white men, and here set about making homes for themselves. Van Houghton came with the state line surveyors in 1852. He was pleased with the county and its future prospects, concluded to claim lands, and also induced the other members of the party just mentioned to come and seek a home with him. They all came from the same neighborhood, near Lansing, Iowa. Van Houghton claimed the southeast quarter of section 36, and Squires the northwest quarter of the same section. This, however, was prior to the subdivision of land into sections, and when it came to be thus surveyed it was found their lands were on the school section, and as they could not prove up on it, Van Houghton sold his claim improvements in June, 1854, to Fayette Lincoln and at once returned to Iowa, remained a few years, and from there moved to Michigan, where he died. Squires sold his claim to Daniel Caswell in 1855, and soon after moved to Owatonna, where he remained till 1859, and then moved to California. Niles and Priest claimed the southeast half of section 35. They also disposed of their lands before the war broke out. Niles moved to Anoka county and Priest to Nebraska, where he was killed in a well. Armstrong claimed the west half of section 33. In 1854 he sold to William Gilson and went to Steele county. In 1858 he returned to this county, lived a year and then moved to Buchanan county, Iowa. He served in the Union army, and while in the service died. In June, 1854, Lafayette Lincoln, a native of Vermont, came from Dane county, Wisconsin, and bought Van Houghton's claim. He erected a frame house—the first in the township—broke forty acres and lived thereon till 1856, when he sold to James W. Prentice and moved over the line into Howard county, Iowa. Prentice was a native of Vermont, but came from Postville, Iowa, to this township. He died prior to 1882.

During the same year, 1854, George and John Britt, Samuel Bacon, Palmer H. Stevens, Moses Vargason and Wentworth Hayes came in to swell the already fair-sized colony of pioneers. The Britts were from Indiana. George claimed the northwest quarter of section 19, where he built a log cabin and broke about ten acres of land. In 1855 he sold to P. F. Huntly and made a claim on section 20, which he sold the following autumn to A. D. Parks. He moved to Chain Lake, Iowa, at which point he had trouble with the Indians, and by whom he was shot and badly wounded. Later, he moved to his native state. Vargason was a native of Pennsylvania, coming from Waukon, Iowa, to this

place. He preëmpted the west half of the southeast quarter of section 33. He lived there about ten years, then sold out and bought land on section 35, on which place he died in 1879. Hayes was from New Hampshire. He preëmpted the north half of the southeast quarter of section 29, and west half of the southwest quarter of section 28.

The winter of 1854 having come and gone and the spring of 1855 far advanced, there were others who made settlement. Among this number were A. J. Palmer, Nathan McNeil, Ziba B. Dailey, Lester Congdon, David Allen, LeGrand Johnson, J. C. Jones, W. B. Spencer, James Sample, P. F. Huntly, John Frank, A. D. Park, Henry Edmonds, Joseph Lytle, Sylvester McArthur, Ed. Whitcomb, Daniel Caswell, James Story, E. F. McKee, Reuben Allen. McNeil came from Illinois, but by nativity was a Canadian. He preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 34, which is the land upon which the village of LeRoy now stands. He was of a restless nature and hence never stopped long in one place. In 1857 he sold out and moved to Howard county, Iowa. Later, he moved to Dakota. Dailey was a native of Pennsylvania, coming from Boone county, Indiana, to this township, settling on section 34. Congdon came from Belvidere, Illinois, and located on the southeast quarter of section 28, where he lived some years, but later moved to Bradford, Bremer county, Iowa. Park came from New York. He settled on section 20, where he remained, in 1884. Lytle came from Pennsylvania, settling on the southeast of section 17. In 1864, he sold out and moved to Nebraska. Johnson was a native of Pennsylvania also. He preëmpted land on the southwest quarter of section 35. He died there the summer of 1861. Spencer, another Pennsylvanian, located on a claim bought from John Britt, on sections 20 and 29. Later he preëmpted another farm. James Sample, Sr., a native of Canada, came from Illinois to Mower county, and made a claim on section 6, which he sold a year or two later to Elihue Morse, after which he made another claim in Fillmore county, where he died. Frank was a native of Germany, born at Frankfort-on-the-Main. He came on in 1855, but did not make an actual settlement until 1856, when he bought the northwest quarter of section 30, where he still lives, having become one of the leading men of southern Minnesota. Huntly was formerly from New York, coming from Iowa here, and buying a claim of George Britt on section 19. Palmer was also from New York. He came in the month of June and preëmpted the northeast quarter of section 34. For a time he lived in the old village of LeRoy, where he had an interest in the mill. John was a practicing physician—the first to settle in the township. He preëmpted 120 acres on the northeast quarter of section 29. It was nearly all timber land. He built a log house, culti-

vated a garden spot and remained till 1857, when he sold out and located on section 8, where his mother had preëmpted land. In 1865 he sold to J. R. Mason and moved to Missouri. His wife was also a physician. Allen was another representative from New York; he was a grandnephew of Ethan Allen. He had been brought up on the frontier, being a pioneer in Canada, Michigan, and Illinois. He was a great hunter, and accounted an excellent shot. As the county was fast settling up he became restless, and in 1859 sold, and with his family went to California. Edmonds had settled in Fillmore county in 1854. He bought the water power and adjacent land of Henry Stevens, who preëmpted it and had erected a saw mill. He sold to Palmer, Caswell & Shook, and returned to his farm in Fillmore county, four miles east of the present village of LeRoy. Edward Whitecomb came from Wisconsin and preëmpted 120 acres on section 21, and later moved to section 31, where he died in 1883.

In 1856, F. Bevier, Lewis Mathews, Horace Barber, Isaac Smith, J. M. Wyckoff, A. J. Porter, Elder Tabor, N. P. Todd, Elihue Morse, George Clapper, Samuel Hale, W. A. Gilson, Chas. Bell, Albert Estlie and many others came in for settlement. Morse was from Connecticut, coming here from Indiana, and settled on the northwest quarter of section 6, and was the first settler in the northern part of the township. Charles Bell came from Indiana in the month of June, and claimed the northeast quarter of section 19. He sold this place in 1861, and moved to section 17. Bevier was from New York. He preëmpted the east half of the southwest quarter of section 27, and the west half of the southeast quarter of that section. Mathews was also a native of New York, but came here from Rock county, Wisconsin. He first settled at the old town of LeRoy, where he bought an interest in the mill property on section 26. He lived in the town about ten years, then sold and moved to Montour, Tama county, Iowa, where he engaged in banking and merchandising. Smith was a native of Maine. He preëmpted the south half of section 19. He was a man finely educated and a teacher. In 1870 he moved to Dodge county, Minnesota, and still later to Mapleton, Blue Earth county. He represented that county in the legislature at one time. He was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister while there. He died in the fall of 1882. Barber was a native of Vermont, coming here from Illinois, settling on section 35. He was a single man at the time, but married in 1858. He died about 1878. Wyckoff and Todd were both natives of New Jersey, and came directly to Minnesota. The former settled on the northeast quarter of section 30, where he lived until 1862. He is now living in the village, where he is a venerable and distinguished citizen. Todd settled on the southwest quarter of section

30. In 1859 he returned to his native state. Gilson was a native of Albany, New York. He went back to that state in a year or two and married. He preëmpted the east half of the southwest and east half of the northwest quarter of section 33. He lived there till 1857 and built a house and store in the old town of LeRoy, where he engaged in the mercantile business.

Elder John Tabor, of the Methodist denomination, was a native of England. He settled on section 10, where he lived two years. In 1883 he moved to New Mexico, to a point about forty miles from Trinidad.

Among others who came in 1857 were Justus Nason, Elias Gardner, George Emery, C. H. Cotton, W. H. Graham, Robert Hedafint and Rudolph Miller; also Caleb Lewis and Charles Smith. Nason was a native of New Hampshire, coming from Boone county, Illinois, settling on section 13. Gardner came from Illinois, settling on section 26. In the time of the Civil war he sold and returned to that state. Emery, a native of Massachusetts, settled on the southeast quarter of section 13 and lived there about two years, when he returned to the east. C. H. and T. W. Cotton, brothers, were formerly from New York, but came here from Illinois. The former preëmpted the north half of the south half of section 23. T. W., his brother, entered the northwest of section 24. A few years later he sold out and moved to Faribault county. Hale, an Englishman by birth, came from Illinois and settled on the northeast of section 9. Graham and Hedafint both came from Ireland. The first named settled on the northeast of section 23, and later moved to St. Louis. Hedafint settled on section 14, and in 1884 lived at Fort Dodge, Iowa. Miller, a native of Switzerland, settled on the southeast quarter of section 12. Later he moved across the line into Beaver township, Fillmore county. Caleb Lewis also came that year, from Indiana, and bought Mr. Jennings out on section 7. He built the first brick farm house in LeRoy township.

During the year 1857 the first Norwegian settlements in the town were made by E. Burns and Soren Engelson. The former claimed the southwest quarter of section 10, and the latter the southeast of the same section. They built a shanty of poles, which they roofed with sod and grass. The shanty was placed on the line, so as to cover both claims. After proving up on these claims they returned to Illinois. In 1858 Burns returned and settled on his land. He was a resident of the town until 1867, when he moved to Winona. In 1858 Aling Thompson and Andrew Larson came. Thompson settled in section 3, but later moved to section 10, where he now resides. Larson first settled on section 3. He afterward moved to section 22, where he died. Ole Knudson

Sterlay came later in the same year, and claimed the northwest quarter of section one.

FIRST EVENTS.

John Van Houghton and J. S. Priest were the first to settle in the township. They came in 1853. The first log house was raised in the spring of 1853, on the north bank of the Iowa river, on the west half of the southwest quarter of section 36, by John S. Priest. The first child born in the township was Ottis T. Caswell, born early in 1856. The first marriage was that of Isaac Van Houghton and a Miss Armstrong, sister of Isaac Armstrong. This took place in the spring of 1853. As this was prior to the county being organized, there was no justice of the peace by whom the marriage ceremony could be performed, consequently they went over the Iowa state line into Oakdale township, Howard county, and there under an oak tree, on the northwest quarter of section 11, township 100, range 14, the marriage rite was performed. The first death was a son of Fayette Lincoln, in the winter of 1856. He was frozen to death.

ORGANIZATION.

The township of LeRoy was organized at a meeting held at Daniel Caswell's, May 11, 1858. John D. Cowles was chosen moderator and Enos A. Hall clerk of the meeting. The following were the first officers elected: N. P. Todd, clerk; Charles Smith, assessor; A. J. Porter, collector; George W. Bishop, Ziba B. Daily, William B. Spencer, supervisors; B. Wakefield and P. C. Sheffield, justices of the peace; A. J. Porter and Winslow Raymond, constables; Daniel Caswell, overseer of roads.

In November, the same year, B. Wakefield resigned as justice of the peace and John D. Cowles was appointed to succeed him. G. W. Bishop also resigned as chairman of the board, and Isaac Smith was appointed to fill the vacancy. At the first township meeting the following resolutions were passed: Resolved, That \$125 be raised to defray the expenses of the township for the ensuing year; That swine be not allowed to run at large at any season of the year; That sheep be not allowed to run at large; That a lawful fence shall consist of not less than one four and one half-feet high, containing not less than three rails or boards to each panel; That all horses and cattle not known to be breechy are allowed to run at large.

Among others who held office at an early day were: J. M. Wyckoff, Elias Gardner, J. C. Jones, William A. Gibson, Lester Congdon, T. P. Ropes, James Grant, James M. Mason, C. H. Cotton, E. F. McKee, J. T. Williams, G. M. Alsdorff and C. A. Roy.

OLD VILLAGE OF LEROY.

The original, or, as it is usually styled, the "old town of LeRoy," is located on the Little Iowa river, on section 28, township 101, range 14. When the railroad was built through the township in 1867, a station was made at what is now LeRoy village. This absorbed all the commercial interests of the older place, and finally left it a defunct village, the remains of which, financially speaking, are only dear to the memory of a generation whose mortal race is nearly run. A mill and a beautiful park now occupy a part of the site of the old village.

The first actual settler in what was known as the "old village," was Henry Edmonds, who came from Wisconsin in 1854, and located first in Fillmore county, but a few months later came to this point. April 13, 1855, he raised a saw mill on the east bank of the Little Iowa river, at a point on the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 28, township 101, range 14 west, within what was afterward the limits of the old village of LeRoy, the lands being bought by him of P. H. Stevens and wife, October 9, 1855.

In the spring of 1856, Mr. Edmonds sold the mill together with the east half of the northwest and the west half of the northeast quarter of said section, to Daniel Caswell, Martin L. Shook and Adoniran J. Palmer. In the summer of that year (1856), Mr. Shook sold his interest to Lewis Mathews, who came from Wisconsin. The company, as then composed, surveyed and platted the "old village" of LeRoy, April 24, 1857. In 1858 Daniel Caswell sold his interest in the saw mill and all that part of the "old village" lying on the east side of the river to Palmer and Mathews, and purchased of Palmer and Mathews their interest in all that portion of said village west of the river. In 1858-59 Palmer and Mathews changed the saw mill into a grist mill. Later on Mathews sold his interest to A. J. Palmer, who still later sold to I. H. Thompson, whose son, F. J. Thompson, now owns it.

In 1856, Henry Edmonds put up a frame building on the site of the "old village" and started the first store therein. He only continued a short time and sold to John D. Coles. He operated it until sometime during the Civil war, when he sold out and went to Missouri.

The same year (1856), E. F. McKee opened a blacksmith shop in the place, beginning work in the fall, in a building which he erected for that purpose. He ran the shop till the new village was started in 1867, when he removed there.

In 1857 Daniel Caswell erected a hotel in the "old village," which he ran until new LeRoy was laid out, and then sold it to

the county for a poorhouse. He then became the pioneer hotel keeper of the new village.

W. A. Gilson came from Albany, New York, in the spring of 1856, and bought some land a short distance from the old town. About one year later he sold out and moved to the village, where he erected a building and started a general merchandise store. When the railroad was built he moved to the new town and remained in trade until 1875, when he removed to Minneapolis. He was burned out in the big LeRoy fire in 1869, and was afterward in partnership with D. C. Corbitt. Wentworth Hayes started a general merchandise store in the old town. When LeRoy station was platted he removed there. P. C. Sheffield came here from Illinois in 1857, and located upon a farm on section 22. For a number of years he taught singing school in this neighborhood and finally in 1865 he started a store in the town which he ran for a short time. Among other improvements made at the "old village," was the erection of a school house, which was built and occupied in 1858. In 1884 there were about a dozen houses remaining at the "old village," as landmarks of the past quarter of a century. At the present time there is quite a settlement there, but no business interests except the old mill

LEROY VILLAGE.

LeRoy village is situated on the northwest quarter and north 30 rods of the southwest quarter of section 34, township 101, range 14 west, and on the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 33. It was platted in 1867, during the month of August, by J. H. McAlvin, P. M. Glathart, and Orlando McCraney, and was then called LeRoy Station. The first train of cars reached this point the first Sunday in August, 1867. It is situated in one of the finest farm and stock raising sections in the state. All lines of mercantile, mechanical and professional business are well represented. Ever since it was platted it has had a steady, healthy growth, and is one of the leading villages in southern Minnesota.

BEGINNING THE NEW VILLAGE.

August 21, 1867, Frank M. Goodykoontz unloaded in LeRoy the first load of lumber for an office building. The village, however, was not really commenced, or lots surveyed and platted until about September 5. The construction train reached this point about the first of the month, but it was about the 15th before lumber could be readily obtained, and in sufficient quantities to supply the demand. Buildings were then erected in quick succession by F. M. Goodykoontz, J. W. Hill, E. F. McKee, Corbett & Allen, W. W. Gilson, Charles Smith and many others.

From September 15 to the time in October when the rails were all laid between Austin and LeRoy, the regular passenger trains from McGregor ran to the station, connecting with M. O. Walker's line of stages to Austin. The railroad station was commenced about September 1 and soon finished.

Nearly two miles northeast of the station was situated the "old town." It was confidently expected that the railroad would touch at this place, even up to within three weeks of the time when the location of the station became public. This was a fine place. There was a good hotel, a flour mill, two or three stores and a blacksmith shop, besides several dwelling places. Through the poor management of those owning lands upon which the railroad company wished to locate the station, a new town was started by the railroad company, and the old town left out in the cold. Daniel Caswell, who was a heavy owner of lots in the old town, and proprietor of the hotel, afterward had all the unsold lots vacated and sold his hotel, outbuildings, and eighty acres of land to Mower county for a poor farm. Mr. Caswell was one of the pioneers who came to the township in 1854. All the merchants moved their stocks of goods and families to the new town, and in some instances the buildings were moved. The post-office was also moved, and since then the old town has consisted mainly of a few dwellings, a park and a mill.

The present village of LeRoy was laid out by the railroad company, and Orlando McCraney of McGregor, appointed trustee, with F. M. Goodykoontz as agent. The price of lots was placed at a very low figure and those who desired were given easy terms of payment.

LEROY IN 1868.

A business directory of LeRoy, published in August, 1868, less than a year after the new village was started, is as follows: Dry goods and groceries, W. A. Coleman & Co., W. A. Gilson, J. W. Hill, W. Hayes, P. Hopkins, O. Iverson, W. Green; groceries, R. Rodell, E. Jordan & Co., Patrick McTigue, J. T. Williams; boots, shoes and groceries, Charles Smith; boots and shoes, M. Petten-gill; drugs and books, J. J. Clemmer (F. W. Frisbie, agent); hardware, Corbitt & Allen, E. F. McKeen, Ingmundson & Roy; furniture, Nason & Edes; meat markets, H. L. Wirard, A. Lewis; wagon shop, W. B. Reid; blacksmiths, Porter & Curry, Henry Brown; jeweler, H. I. Hoppin; harness shop, E. C. Kasson; hotels, New Brick Hotel, D. Caswell, proprietor, LeRoy House, William Beeman, Opera House, B. B. Strong, Mendota House, John Farrell; lumber dealers, W. A. Coleman & Co., Seeley & Shaw, N. B. Johnson & Co., Thayer & Ball; agricultural implements, G. L. Henderson, J. T. Williams, J. D. Allen, Pratt & Cusick, E. F.

McKee; millinery, Mrs. J. C. Bronson, Mrs. Freemer, Mrs. H. I. Hoppins; tailor, John Harrington; livery, J. C. Burlingame; produce dealers, W. S. Potter, A. B. De La Ronde, J. M. Larrabee, H. W. Gregory, G. L. Henderson; billiard hall, H. H. Wright; physician and surgeon, Dr. G. M. Alsdurf, Dr. J. W. Corbitt, Dr. H. Webber; lawyer, F. M. Goodykoontz; real estate and insurance, Goodykoontz & Wyckoff.

EARLY BUSINESS.

It has already been seen that many of the branches of trade commenced with men who came from the "old village" in 1867 and 1868. The first to engage in the dry goods and grocery trade in LeRoy village was McCraney & Hill, from McGregor, Iowa, who continued five or six years and sold to John Avery & Bro. Some time later John Avery died and his brother Frank continued the business for some time. About the same time of Messrs. McCraney & Hill's starting came Wentworth Hayes from the "old village" also, and started in the same line. He located on the south side of Main street. Reuben Odell came in 1868 and opened a general stock, ran about two years and sold to Gardner Howell and he to R. G. Young, who came from Indiana. Charles Harden succeeded him in trade. W. A. Coleman came in 1867 and put in a large and well assorted stock of general merchandise, where T. A. Killen was afterwards located. Another "old villager" was W. A. Gilson, who put in a full line of dry goods and groceries in the fall of 1867. He remained six years and removed to Minneapolis.

The hardware trade was first represented in New Town by D. C. Corbitt and J. D. Allen, of Wisconsin. They carried a full line of shelf and heavy hardware, together with such agricultural implements as were then demanded by the farmers. This stock was destroyed by fire in 1869. Another dealer in this line was E. F. McKee, who removed from the "old village" in 1867. He operated till the following spring and sold to J. D. Allen, retaining the store building, which he rented to Allen. This store was situated on the corner of Main and Broadway streets. C. A. Roy, who ran a tinshop in connection with Allen's hardware store, bought Allen out. Then Allen built opposite the Caswell House, on Main street.

The first to establish themselves in the drug trade at this place were Dr. Clemers and F. W. Frisbee, afterward Frisbee & Son. The next to embark in the drug business was J. M. Larrabee.

The pioneer boot and shoe dealers were Smith & Carson, who came in 1867 from the old village. They were burned out in the fire of 1869, and never rebuilt. He then embarked in a general

store on the same street. The next to enter this line of trade was Hans Hauge. He came in 1870. J. J. Martz started in the furniture business in 1869.

The first blacksmiths who operated at the new village were John Curray and Henry Bowen, and A. J. Porter, who removed from the old village, and went in partnership with John Curray, in 1868. E. F. McKee, the pioneer blacksmith of the county, located in the new village July 1, 1875.

The first wagon shop started at this point was in 1867, by William Reid, who sold after a short time to George Swasey, and he to Warren Walker.

The first to engage in the harness business was E. C. Kasson, who came in 1868, moving from the old village. Next came William Davis, then a man named Kent. After Kent left, the place was without a harness shop for some time, until in 1882, when W. B. Mitson came in and opened up a shop.

E. F. McKee furnished the village with its first public hall in 1868. It was over the hardware store which he built, on the corner of Main and Broadway streets. It was afterward made into a Masonic hall. The next public hall or opera house was fitted up from an old warehouse by James A. Henderson, on the south side of Main street. This was consumed by the conflagration of 1880. J. D. Allen's hall, over his brick hardware store, was soon completed.

The first to sell farm machinery at LeRoy was Strothes & Conklin, from Cresco, Iowa. They were followed by John D. Allen. Then Trask engaged in the business with Mr. Beers. Nelson & Bro. ran a branch house here, the main store being at Austin. They moved some of their goods away and finally were closed out at Austin.

The first grain buyers of the village were John W. Larrabee, Henry Gregory, W. S. Potter and Dell Rowen. Other early buyers were W. Hayes, J. M. Larrabee and William Henderson.

The first lumber dealers in LeRoy were Haytt & Burdick, of McGregor, Iowa, who came in 1867. W. A. Coleman opened a yard in 1868. Other early dealers were S. Fifield & Son, Gregory & Son, and D. C. Corbitt. William Allen was the sole representative of this branch in 1884.

LE ROY IN 1871.

In 1871, LeRoy had two churches, the Baptists having a stone building and the Presbyterians a frame edifice; a three department school; two hotels, the Caswell house and the LeRoy house; ten stores, one furniture wareroom, a wagon shop, a number of blacksmith shops and several saloons.

LE ROY IN 1884.

The following named persons operated in the various branches of trade in 1884: Frank Avery, W. Hayes, H. A. McConnell, Isaac Thompson, A. Folsom and T. A. Killen, general stocks; J. D. Allen and C. A. Roy, hardware; J. N. Larrabee and Frisbie & Son, drugs; J. Martz, furniture; C. S. Harden, groceries, confectionery and restaurant; M. A. Williams, tobacco, cigars, stationery and confectionery; George W. Clark, drugs and groceries; Michael Murry, cigars, tobacco and groceries; Patrick Moran, cigars, tobacco, grocery and billiard hall; P. M. Tigue, cigars, tobacco and billiard hall; E. Avery, grocery and restaurant; George Craig, grocery and restaurant; E. C. Kasson, barbershop and billiard hall; Hans Hauge, boots and shoes; William Allen, lumber; J. M. Larrabee, W. Hayes and W. L. Henderson, grain dealers; E. F. McKee, J. D. Allen, William Allen, farm machinery; Warren Walker, wagon shop; E. F. McKee, A. J. Porter and C. P. Wells, blacksmiths; W. B. Mitson, harness shop; Nettie Gilbert and Mrs. McMillen, milliners; William Allen, lumber; Caleb Lewis, meat market; R. M. Slitor, hotel (Caswell house); The LeRoy Independent, J. McKnight, editor and proprietor; J. M. Wyckoff, Joseph McKnight, E. J. Kingsbury, J. F. Trask and J. S. Bishop; Drs. Alsdorff and Ed. Kingsbury, physicians; William Allen, depot agent; Mrs. M. A. Williams, postmistress.

INCORPORATION.

LeRoy was incorporated as a village in February, 1876, by an act of the state legislature regulating such matters. D. S. Fifield, W. L. Henderson and C. A. Roy were designated as the men to carry out the act of the legislature.

The first officers were: President, W. L. Henderson; trustees, E. F. McKee, A. J. Porter and William Allen; recorder, C. A. Roy. The present officers are: President, F. E. Garner; clerk, A. D. Brown; Ray Becker, Howard S. Martz and Rudolph Meyers.

The LeRoy city hall, which houses the council chambers, the village hall, the fire department apparatus and the jail, was erected in 1895. The council at that time consisted of: President, G. W. Palmer; recorder, A. R. Williams; M. T. Dunn, F. E. Garner, H. O. Cotton. Two years later, in 1897, the water works system with well, tower, pump and the like was installed. The system now covers the principal streets of the village. The council at the time of the inauguration of this system consisted of: President, M. T. Dunn; recorder, A. R. Williams; R. A. Meyers, Lars Runnestrand, H. O. Cotton. In 1899 the electric light plant was installed and a contract made for lighting the city streets. The LeRoy electric light plant, which is managed

by Edward S. Bostworth, still furnishes electricity for the streets as well as for public, business and private buildings.

LeRoy has an excellent fire department, well equipped with fire fighting apparatus. At all periods of her history bucket brigades have assisted in the extinguishing of fires. The present department was organized as LeRoy Hose Cart Company, No 1, July 8, 1897. M. E. Williams was appointed chairman and George Boyd secretary of the temporary organization. After adopting by-laws, the following officers were elected: Chief, C. I. Roy; captain, A. S. Dehler; secretary, George A. Boyd; treasurer, J. L. Deuell. The present officers are: Chief, C. I. Roy; captain, C. J. Wells; secretary, Otto Hansen; treasurer, Raymond Brown.

RELIGIOUS.

First Baptist Church. The people of LeRoy township have been a religious people from the earliest settlement, the first religious services being held at the house of Henry Edmonds, in 1856, by Elder C. H. Pearsons. He was a Baptist clergyman, who organized a society in September, 1857. The following signed the articles of faith, and thus became members of the church: George Bishop, Lester Congdon, A. J. Palmer, Emily Pearsons, Martha J. Bishop, Charles H. Pearsons and Mary Congdon. A. J. Palmer and George Bishop were chosen deacons. Charles H. Pearsons was their pastor. For a time the society met for worship in the upper story of E. F. McKee's blacksmith shop, but as soon as the schoolhouse was completed they met there. In 1869 the building of a church edifice was commenced in the new village of LeRoy. This was a concrete or grout building, costing \$2,500. It was formally dedicated March 21, 1875. The church was damaged by the storm and soon afterward the present comfortable edifice was erected. The present pastor is Rev. V. N. Robbins. Among the early pastors were: Chas. H. Pearsons, T. B. Ropes, Walter Ross, Geo. W. Arms, James Jeffries, Thomas Uer, W. W. Ragen, G. W. Burnham and E. R. Pierce.

St. Patrick's Church, R. C. The first mass at LeRoy was held by Father John McDemmit, in 1867, at the "old village." The first mass in the new village was held at John Meigs' house, and was conducted by Father McDemmit, and later it was held at Patrick Ryan's residence. In 1878 a frame church was erected, in which Father Bowen was the first priest. This building was dedicated by him. Other early priests were Father Coyne, Father Hurley and Father Smidth. The church is now served by the Rev. Father Gmeinder, of Spring Valley.

The Methodist Episcopal denomination formed a class at the

log schoolhouse on section 29, in the winter of 1857-8. Elder Norton, from Frankford and Spring Valley circuit, officiated. The following were members of that pioneer band of worshippers: W. B. Spencer and wife, Joseph Lytle and wife, Dr. Jones and wife and their daughter Harriet, William Graham and wife, Mrs. James Story. W. B. Spencer was chosen leader of the class. They met at the log schoolhouse until the following spring, and then met at the schoolhouse at the old village of LeRoy, where they held regular service for several years, but finally the class was suspended.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized March 30, 1868. The following members were present at the meeting of the organization: J. M. Wyckoff and wife; W. H. Graham, Benjamin Mitchell and wife, Joseph Maxfield and wife, Mrs. Mary Gilson, Mrs. Isabelle Monday, Miss Salina A. Mitchell, A. D. Park, Mrs. Hattie Potter, William Craig and wife. The following were elected trustees: W. H. Graham, Christian Aleman, W. B. Reed, F. M. Goodykoontz, J. M. Wyckoff. W. H. Graham was chosen chairman and J. M. Wyckoff secretary and treasurer. In 1870 the society erected a commodious house of worship, which is located on lots 8 and 9 of block 2. It was formally dedicated February 15, 1871. The first elders were J. M. Wyckoff and H. M. Prentice. The present elders are James McGillvray and W. B. Spencer. Among the early pastors were: Rev. Adam Craig, Rev. Wait, J. S. Chapman, J. A. Laurrie, B. T. DeWitt, E. Thompson and E. N. Raymond.

The Norwegian Danish Lutheran Congregation of LeRoy had its beginning about 1868 in the old village of LeRoy when Rev. T. Larson began preaching in the vicinity. The congregation purchased the old stone schoolhouse at that place and converted it into a house of worship. Among the pastors have been O. A. Bu, Christ Thompson and M. K. Hartman. The congregation was incorporated in 1892, those interested in the incorporation being Ole Monson, Andrew Hawkins, John Rowe, D. L. Rowe, Jens Jensen, Mons Oleson, Ingvar O. Share, Ole O. Share, Jr., John Hauge, Jens Karson, Andrew Thompson, J. L. Muller and Rev. O. A. Bu. The trustees were T. L. Rowe, Jens Jensen and Ole O. Share, Jr. On March 27, 1894, the congregation purchased its present property, and at once erected the present house of worship. The officers of the church are: Pastor, Rev. D. Swennungsen; secretary, H. T. Hawkins; treasurer, Andrew Hawkins; trustees, Inger Share, Knute Monson and John Hauge. The present pastor is a newcomer. He is the first pastor of the church who has resided here, and in addition to this charge he serves several other congregations. The old stone building in the old village of LeRoy has been torn down, and the property

surrounding it is now the site of the Lutheran cemetery. The congregation affiliates with the United Lutheran church body.

CEMETERIES.

A cemetery association was formed in LeRoy as early as 1857, when, on December 26, a number of citizens assembled at the home of Daniel Caswell. These men were: N. P. Todd, A. J. Palmer, O. D. Walker, William Raymond, Daniel Caswell, Lewis Matthews, William A. Gilson, Isaac Smith, John M. Wyckoff, A. D. Park, W. B. Spencer, James H. Story, J. C. Jones and A. Fisk. The corporate name of the association was Union Grove Cemetery of LeRoy. The trustees were: G. W. Bishop, Isaac Smith, N. P. Todd, Lewis Matthews, W. B. Spencer and J. C. Jones. The grounds selected by the above association were situated on the southeast of the southeast of section 28, and a few bodies were there buried. These grounds proved to be unfit for cemetery purposes, as the lime rock came so near the surface that graves could not be dug the proper depth.

March 18, 1861, another cemetery association was formed, also known as the Union Grove Cemetery Association. At their first meeting J. D. Cowles was chosen chairman and P. C. Sheffield secretary. The following were present: William Gilson, T. J. Bishop, F. Bevier, Chas. Smith, Daniel Caswell, Lester Congdon, A. J. Palmer, V. B. Lincoln, J. D. Cowles, D. C. Sheffield, John S. Priest, J. M. Wyckoff and Mr. Hedafint.

At this meeting the present location was selected. The first person buried in the ground was Legrand Johnson.

Previous efforts at perfecting a cemetery association not proving successful, the LeRoy Cemetery Association was formed April 8, 1863. The nine trustees elected at that time were: J. M. Wyckoff, Z. B. Daily, Daniel Caswell, Chas. Smith, William Graham, J. D. Cowles, S. P. Bacon, Rev. T. P. Ropes and Wm. A. Gilson. The association has been continued to the present time, the officers now being: President, H. G. McKee; secretary, J. M. Wyckoff; treasurer, W. H. Brown; C. I. Roy, Caleb Lewis, V. A. Nason, S. D. Martz, Ralph Hall and E. J. Diddams.

The cemetery is a beautiful one, consisting of seven and a half acres in section 28. The Catholic cemetery adjoins it on the east, and there is but a short distance to the Norwegian cemetery.

MODERN LEROY.

LeRoy is one of the most important villages in southern Minnesota. Its population, including the persons living in the thickly settled portions of the township adjoining the corporate

limits, is about eleven hundred. The village is well laid out, has excellent cement sidewalks and the streets are bordered with slightly shade trees. Four churches, an excellent state high school, several fraternities, an opera house, a good hotel, two fraternity halls, a city hall, a newspaper, a cornet band, two banks, water works, fire protection and electric lights all add to the desirability of life at this point.

LeRoy is pleasantly situated in an open prairie, on the Upper Iowa river. Divisions of the Chicago Great Western and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul have stations at this point.

Among the activities of LeRoy may be mentioned the following: Two elevators, one lime plant, one garage, one creamery, one hotel, four general stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, one clothing store, two banks, two grocery stores, two barber shops, two restaurants, one livery, two blacksmith shops, one wall paper and paint establishment, one lumber yard, one furniture store, two farm implement establishments, two physicians, one dentist, one photographer, one milliner, two harness shops, three land agents, one lawyer, one produce store, one heating and plumbing establishment, two dray lines and one meat market.

Le Roy High School. The village of Le Roy comprises independent school district No. 5. The first school in this district was held in a house belonging to Daniel Caswell in the summer of 1857. That fall a stone schoolhouse was built in the old village of LeRoy. This stone schoolhouse, which has been demolished, occupied the present site of the Lutheran cemetery, and its foundations are still standing. When the village was started at Le Roy station, the new schoolhouse was built. This, with various additions, served until 1899, when the present beautiful eight-room brick schoolhouse was built on the old site. The committee at that time consisted of: President, C. A. Roy; clerk, George Palmer; treasurer, R. Hall; W. M. Walker, F. T. Young and Mrs. G. M. Alsdorf. The present officers are: President, A. J. Hayes; treasurer, H. K. Hawkins; clerk, L. M. Daily; Dr. M. J. Hart, J. P. Blackmer, A. D. Brown. The school covers the usual graded studies and has a full high school course. Domestic science, agriculture and manual training are soon to be installed.

LeRoy Cornet Band. The old original band, made up of fourteen members, each possessing an instrument, was organized in 1887, with J. P. Barnum as their leader.

Various other bands have flourished from time to time. The present band was organized in the spring of 1905, and Dr. J. L. Day has continued to be the leader. The organization is known as the LeRoy Cadet Band and has done some excellent work. An instructor has been engaged, and the band has recently been

increased by several new members. The officers are: President, H. S. Martz; vice-president, J. L. Day; secretary, Alden Malcomson; treasurer, Robert Malcomson; assistant leader, Chester Lunder.

Hotels. The first hotel of the place was erected and operated by William Beemis in 1867. This was the LeRoy House, a two-story frame building on Main street. It was purchased by R. M. Slitor, in 1877, and two years later, when he bought the Caswell House, he closed the former and rented it for other purposes.

The Caswell House was a commodious two-story brick building, located on the corner of Main street and Broadway. The building was erected in 1868, by Daniel Caswell, at a cost of \$12,000. Mr. Caswell managed the hotel several years, then sold to Jacob Lewis. It was purchased in 1879, by R. M. Slitor. It then passed through various hands and was destroyed by the cyclone. Sweet's Hotel is a well-kept hostelry very popular with the traveling public. It was erected in 1898 by William W. Sweet, and is now conducted by Peter T. Christiansen. It is well furnished and equipped, and the cuisine is of the best.

Opera House. Soon after the great cyclone of 1894, an opera house was erected by the Masonic bodies and the Odd Fellows combined. The lower floor furnishes an excellent auditorium for amusement purposes, while the upper floor is divided into two suites of lodge rooms with a large dining room. C. I. Roy is manager of the opera house.

Lime Kiln. Since the earliest days the excellence of the limestone near LeRoy has been recognized. Fowler & Pay now operate kilns not far from the village, employ some twelve to twenty men, and have a daily output of some two hundred barrels.

The LeRoy Co-operative Creamery was organized early in 1911, and started business April 1, 1911, in the old Hardin creamery. The company has promising prospects and will erect a new well-equipped building this summer. The officers are: President, Fred Palmerton; vice-president, John F. Hale; secretary, Chas. A. Howe; treasurer, Ole Reiersen; directors, Jacob Hopp, Adolph Rhend and Richard Nelson. John F. Scott is the buttermaker.

The LeRoy Fibre Company, operating under patents held by J. E. Lappen and G. W. W. Harden, maintained a large manufacturing business here and employed some sixty hands. Its product consisted of flax fibre felt for insulating and lining purposes. Charges were at one time made that thousands of fish in the stream were killed as the result of this factory's operations. The concern was purchased by the American Insulating Company, which, after operating the factory for a while, closed the plant. The material is now manufactured at St. Paul.

The LeRoy Telephone Company had its origin in 1900, when

Henry F. Hermes and Fred Henslin installed a private system. The company was incorporated March 20, 1903, with the following officers: President, Otto C. Maercklein; vice-president, Fred Henslin; secretary, Charles J. Maercklein; treasurer, A. Edgar Henslin; manager, Henry F. Hermes. The system operates in Adams, LeRoy, McIntire and Riceville. At present some 900 instruments are in use. The officers are: President, M. J. Hart; vice-president, N. C. Johnson; secretary and manager, Frank E. Garner; treasurer, A. E. Henslin; director, J. G. Schweder. The paid-in capital stock at the present time is \$41,600.

ORGANIZATIONS.

James George Post, No. 23, of G. A. R., was named in honor of Col. James George, of the Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. It was organized March 27, 1883, by J. V. V., Asa R. Burleson. The charter members were H. A. McConnell, F. H. Avery, W. D. Harden, E. A. Whitcomb, E. M. Gillman, G. S. Brown, W. W. Sweet, John Frank, Fred Mason, J. U. Darrow, G. W. Flick, Caleb Lewis, E. C. Kasson, S. E. Morse, W. L. Henderson, George Remore, T. J. Bishop, E. Heddington, C. A. Roy, Charles Bell, Isaac Layman, S. A. Hill, A. Bettis, Andrew Mahoney. The first officers elected were as follows: H. A. McConnell, Commander; Isaac Lane, S. V. C.; John Frank, J. V. C.; C. A. Roy, O. S.; G. L. Brown, Q. M.; E. M. Gillman, A. G.; W. D. Harden, Chaplain; E. C. Kasson, Adjt.; E. A. Whitecomb, Surgeon Maj.; W. W. Sweet, Q. M. S. The post is still in a flourishing condition.

James George Corps, No. 56, W. R. C., was organized December 11, 1888. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Ann Bostworth; senior vice-president, Mrs. Layman; junior vice-president, Mrs. A. W. Howe; secretary, Mrs. O. Mason; treasurer, Mrs. Mary Chambo; conductor, Mrs. Maggie Whitecomb; assistant, Mrs. Maggie A. Williams; chaplain, Mrs. Nancy Pierce. The present officers are: President, Mrs. Hattie Day; senior vice-president, Mrs. Maggie B. Williams; junior vice-president, Mrs. Hannah Bell; chaplain, Mrs. Jennie Brown; secretary, Mrs. Ann W. Howe; treasurer, Mrs. James Kingsbury; conductor, Mrs. Stella Merrick; assistant, Mrs. Emma Smith; guard, Mrs. Sarah Anderson; assistant guard, Mrs. Joseph S. Bevier; press committee, Mrs. Oella Mason; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Maggie Whitecomb; color bearers, the Mesdames Edna Armstrong, Lizzie Knight, Jessie Despard and Katherine May. The work of the Relief Corps has been to aid the old soldiers in every way possible. The ladies have contributed largely towards soldiers' homes and have erected a monument in the cemetery in memory of the soldiers who repose there and of those who sleep in unknown graves.

Eureka Lodge, No. 75, A. F. and A. M., was organized July 23, 1868. The charter members were: F. M. Goodykoontz, Charles Allen, I. Ingmundson, W. S. Potter, G. T. Angell, F. H. Allen, G. A. Whitcomb, Randall Billings, W. A. Coleman, H. H. Coleman and P. T. McIntyre. The first officers were: F. M. Goodykoontz, W. M.; Charles Allen, S. W.; I. Ingmundson, J. W.; P. T. McIntyre, secretary; W. A. Coleman, treasurer; G. T. Angell, S. D.; W. S. Potter, J. D.; E. H. Whitcomb, tyler. The present officers are: M. W., F. L. Roy; S. W., Rufus Mahoney; J. W., Ray Becker; treasurer, F. C. Mason; secretary, F. E. Garner; S. D., L. A. Porter; J. D., W. E. Armstrong; S. S., E. Boyd; J. S., A. A. Wells; T., J. B. Kingsley.

Royal Arch Chapter, No. 24, A. F. and A. M., was organized at LeRoy under dispensation, on August 25, 1873, with the following officers and first members: I. Ingmundson, H. P.; W. F. Fifield, K.; J. S. Bishop, S.; M. E. Frisbee, C. of H.; C. A. Roy, P. S.; Henry Bowen, R. A. C.; H. A. McConnell, M. of 3d V.; J. F. Trask, M. of 2d V.; N. H. Roberts, M. of 1st V. On July 29, 1874, the lodge was granted a charter, with the following charter members and officers: W. F. Fifield, R. W. M.; A. J. Porter, S. W.; H. Bowen, J. W.; H. A. McConnell, M. O.; A. J. Porter, S. O.; H. Bowen, J. O.; M. E. Frisbee, S. D.; J. Mahoney, J. D.; J. S. Bishop and J. Martz. The present officers are: E. H. P., F. E. Garner; K., F. C. Mason; S., Rufus Mahoney; treasurer, F. C. Mason; secretary, J. M. Wykoff; C. of H., C. S. Harden; P. S., A. R. Williams; R. A. C., C. I. Roy; M. 3d V., F. L. Roy; M. 2d V., Raymond Becker; M. 1st V., E. A. Whitcomb; sentinel, Joseph Morrow; trustees, C. I. Roy, C. S. Harden and P. Mahoney.

Columbia Chapter, No. 58, O. E. C., was granted a charter May 10, 1893. The charter officers were: Worthy matron, Mrs. Francis C. Roy; W. P., Isaac Layman; A. M., Mrs. Eula A. Porter. The present officers are: W. M., Frances Wells; W. P., Ernest Body; A. M., Mrs. Freda Eckstein.

Acorn Camp, No. 1788, M. W. A., received its charter October 5, 1892, with the following charter members: Edwin S. Garvey, Luther A. Knapp, Malcom Malcomson, Nelson R. Miller, George J. Malcomson, George C. Pfremmer, Lars Runnestrand, Charles I. Roy, Loren S. Wilder and Hans B. Hansen.

Lovell Camp, No. 466, Royal Neighbors, received its charter November 24, 1896. There were thirty-eight charter members.

LeRoy Lodge, No. 43, I. O. O. F. An Odd Fellows lodge was organized in LeRoy in the early seventies, but the charter was surrendered about 1880. LeRoy Lodge, No. 43, received its charter November 2, 1892, the following being named as charter members: J. C. Belding, D. H. Stimson, O. L. Gibbons, C. H. Green,

E. Myers, Lars Runnestrand, Daniel Bostworth, W. W. Johnson, I. H. Thompson.

Violet Rebekah Lodge, No. 90, I. O. O. F., was organized in 1893 and received its charter March 3 of that year. The members named in the charter are: Ann E. S. Bostworth, Daniel Bostworth, Addie Hale, Helma Jensen, Frederick Jensen, Christine Madsen, Viola Hermes, Henry F. Hermes, Carrie Wells, Catherine Keeler, Frank B. Keeler, Orsey V. Wells, Mattie A. Mason, Vant A. Mason, Mary J. Reber, Kate A. Barber, C. S. Barber, Lunette White.

The History Club, which is limited to fourteen members, was organized January 14, 1901, and federated in 1907. The first officers were Mrs. W. M. Walker, president, and Mrs. M. J. Hart, secretary. The club has devoted its meetings to the study of art and travel. The present officers are: President, Mrs. C. E. Meyers; vice-president, Mrs. Ralph Prescott; secretary, Mrs. A. E. Henslin; treasurer, Mrs. C. S. Palmer; federation secretary, Mrs. M. J. Hart.

The LeRoy Library Association. Some years ago some of the ladies of LeRoy formed the Ladies' Book Club for the purpose of securing and exchanging books. This movement grew to such an extent that the people of the village began to realize the importance of having a public library. Accordingly the ladies formed the present association, first officers being: President, Mrs. M. J. Hart; Mrs. Merrill Bowers; secretary, Mrs. F. W. Sprung; treasurer, Mrs. W. K. Porter. The association started with about three hundred volumes, a part of which were donated. The association laid aside about \$300 as a building fund the first year and now has about \$700. The original officers are still serving. The association now has about 680 borrowers, and the ladies are making an effort to have the village take the library in charge.

DISASTERS.

Early Fire. January 19, 1869, the village of LeRoy suffered a loss by fire of about \$17,000. The insurance was very small. The following were the principal losses: Wentworth Hayes, dry goods and grocery store, stock, household furniture, books and papers burned; loss, \$7,000; insurance, \$2,000. W. A. Gilson, variety store, building, total loss; part of furniture and stock saved in a damaged condition; loss, \$4,000; insurance small. Charles Smith, boot, shoe and grocery store; building, total loss, most of stock saved; loss, \$3,000; insurance on building, \$800. Corbitt & Allen, hardware; building, total loss; stock mostly saved; loss, \$3,500; small insurance.

J. T. Williams Burned. On December 5, 1872, LeRoy was vis-

ited by a sad catastrophe. In a fire, which was caused by the stumbling of Mrs. B. V. Lincoln, who was nursing Mrs. J. T. Williams, in the family residence over the Williams store, Mrs. Lincoln met immediate death. Mr. Williams, in his heroic rescue of his wife and family, received burns which resulted in his death, and the building was totally destroyed. The postoffice was in the same building. The law office of J. M. Wyckoff was torn down to prevent the spread of the flames. Mr. Williams had served as postmaster, county superintendent of schools, and member of the state legislature.

The facts in detail are as follows: J. T. Williams, who was the postmaster, kept his office in the lower story of his building and lived on the second floor. In the rear was a shed in which supplies of various kinds were stored away. Twenty-four hours previous to the fire Mrs. Williams had given birth to a child. Mrs. V. B. Lincoln, a friend of the family, was in attendance upon her wants. About half past one o'clock Wednesday morning Mrs. Lincoln, desiring something from the shed in the rear of the building, with a burning lamp in hand, started down the stairs. She stumbled and fell, setting her clothes on fire. Mr. Williams rushed to her assistance in his night garments, at the same time giving the alarm. Mrs. Lincoln was burned to death, and so, leaving her body in the flames, the citizens who had gathered made an effort to rescue the family. Boxes were piled on each other to the second-story windows. Mr. Williams, whose face and hands, legs and feet, at this time were seriously burned, was the first man upon the boxes and into the window for his wife and children. With the aid of friends they all got out in safety. Mr. Williams then secured his coat, which had in one of the pockets \$737 and valuable papers, some \$300 being money order funds and the balance belonging to the town. Then he darted into the postoffice and seized a package of some \$200 worth of postage stamps. Later he walked into the drug store of Mr. Frisbee, sat down in a chair, and remarked to Mr. Frisbee, "Why, Mrs. Lincoln is burned up!" And in the next moment he says, "Frisbee, I am badly burned; can't you do something for me?" He was assisted by Mr. Frisbee to the rooms over the store, and placed on a bed. He was so badly burned that when pumping water from the well to put out the fire he actually left upon the frozen ice the bottoms of his feet—two pieces of tough skin, each the size and shape of his foot, and the thickness of calf skin. He left plainly marked footprints of blood at every step from the front of Frisbee's drug store to the back, and on every step up the stairs to his very dying bed. The package of postage stamps had the distinct imprint of his bloody hand upon the outside wrapper, where he caught hold of it. Efforts to save him were of no avail and he died two days later.

DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE.

The village of LeRoy was almost entirely wiped out by a cyclone at 10:30 on the evening of September 21, 1894. The wind, which followed a heavy rain, came from the southwest, striking the depot and elevators, passing on over the business section, wrecking many stores and ending in the northeast part of the town by leveling many residences, including the new Baptist parsonage. A group of merrymakers in the Union Opera House made their escape as that building was falling, Henry Findley, aged thirteen, and Chris Gilbertson, aged sixteen, being killed. Among those injured by the storm were: Joe Nelson, Mrs. Mort Dunton, Nels Weigen, Carl Carson, Arthur Maxfield, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Chamberlain, R. Myers, Charles Blair, a child, two small children, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cotton. The property loss was about 75,000. The cyclone demolished the general store of Weigan Brothers; C. A. Roy's hardware store; Porter & Young's general store; Gilbert's millinery store; E. Deddam's slaughter house; H. Bradley's lumber yard and office; Henry Cotton's home and blacksmith shop; Hall & White's meat market; the Baptist parsonage and the residences of the following persons: J. M. Wyckoff, W. W. Sweet, R. G. Young, Henry Meyers, Drs. Allsdorff, James Whiteman, Horace Chamberlain, E. E. Degroff, H. H. Bither, O. J. Hattelstad, T. F. Trask, C. C. Mason, H. G. McKee, Mrs. Billingsworth, S. Harrison, John Cosgrove, E. Deddams, H. Bradley, L. A. Knapp, R. Meyers, J. M. Larrabee, E. C. Kasson, Mrs. Cotton, Mrs. J. Maxwell, the Misses Jacobson, Mrs. Mary Miller.

CHAPTER XXXI.**LYLE TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.**

Location and Area—Early Settlement—First Events—Cedar City—Village of Lyle—Able Articles by William Nordland and L. W. Sherman—Development of the Village—City Hall—Fire Department—Churches—Fraternal Orders—Industries—Telephone Company—Municipal History—Recollections of Early Lyle.

Lyle comprises congressional township 101 north, range 18 west. It is bound as follows: On the north by Austin township, east by Nevada, south by Mitchell and Worth counties, Iowa, and west by Freeborn county. The surface is mostly level. The soil

is a rich, dark loam, and very productive. This is a prairie town and was void of timber, except along the Red Cedar river, which is skirted with a rich, natural growth. In other parts of the territory beautiful groves of transplanted trees meet the eye in every direction. Cedar river and its branches drain the township and furnish good water power, none of which is at present improved. The main stream crosses the northern boundary in section 4 and traverses in a generally southern course sections 9, 16, 17, 21, 28 and 33. In the latter it receives the waters of its most important tributary, Woodbury creek, which flows through the southwest part of the town.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settler within the territorial limits of Lyle, which is one of the oldest towns in Mower county, was one Woodbury, who came here from parts unknown in the autumn of 1853, and claimed a large tract of land bordering on Cedar river and the creek which takes from him its name. On the northwest quarter of section 33 he put up a log cabin and covered it with sod. Soon his son-in-law, Pinkerton, came. Woodbury sold his claim in June, 1855, and moved to Olmsted county.

In the spring of 1854 two other sons-in-law of Mr. Woodbury put in an appearance and made claims in the vicinity of his own. They were named respectively Marlott, Pinkerton and Stilson. Marlott established himself for a brief season on the northwest quarter of section 28, subsequently accompanying, or following, his father Woodbury to Olmsted county. Pinkerton, who had previously lived with Woodbury, constructed a log house on the northeast of section 32. Having lived there about a year, he sold out and went westward to the Blue Earth river. Stilson erected a temporary dwelling of bark on the present site of Woodbury cemetery. In the latter part of the year 1855 he removed to Albert Lea. From that place he journeyed on with his family and formed a new home on the banks of the Blue Earth river. Here a sad accident befell them. During a severe rainstorm the stream was rapidly swollen. The raging waters surrounded and partially filled the house. With difficulty Mr. Stilson succeeded in saving the lives of his wife and an infant child. They had a narrow escape, while three children were drowned.

The first permanent settlement in this town was made in 1854, by Orlando Wilder, Eben Merry, James Foster and his son Return Foster, John Tiffit and William Bean. Mr. Wilder is a native of the Green Mountain state. He arrived here on the sixth day of May, in the year above mentioned. He built his house on section 33. Some of the party who came west with him settled across the state line in Iowa. Eben Merry was born in York

State. He settled on the west half of section 4. James Foster and his son Return were natives of New Jersey, made the first settlement in the north part of the town in the autumn of 1854. They preëmpted land in sections 3 and 4. The father made his home here until the time of his death. John Tift, also a settler of 1854, entered land in sections 4, 5 and 9. He laid out the village of Troy and erected a saw mill. He died a few years later. William Bean came with the Wilders, and continued a member of their family, Mrs. Wilder being his step-daughter. He took a claim on section 33.

The first settlers in the town of Lyle were obliged to go to Auburn, Fayette county, Iowa, a distance of eighty miles, to get their mail and to buy provisions. They used to make the trip with ox teams. When the mail route was established from Osage to Austin, mail matter was left at Orlando Wilder's for distribution in the neighborhood. This was not a regular postoffice, but the arrangement was a great convenience to the hard working pioneers.

The settlers of 1855 were William Allen, George Carrier, Benjamin Coe, James Davis, Dilarzon and Lorenzo Moshier, Joseph Richards, Edward Sprague, John Woodworth and David West. William Allen, the pioneer of Nevada, took up his abode for a time on section 20. Thence he went to the Pacific coast, and when last heard from was living in Oregon. George Carrier settled on the northeast quarter of section 20, where he made, however, but a short tarry. Soon the place which had but begun to know him knew him no more; he had sold out and gone to Texas. Benjamin Coe, Ed. Sprague and John Woodworth arrived together in June. Coe bought Woodbury's claim and occupied it until June, 1856, when he sold it to Rev. Alanson Beach and A. M. St. John, and moved to Olmsted county. Sprague settled on the southwest quarter of section 28. He had been there but two or three years when he sold out to Judge Lyle, and returned to Illinois. Woodworth preëmpted land in sections 28 and 29. He also was but a temporary resident in Lyle. Disposing of his property in the township he followed the migration to Olmsted county. In 1861 the Woodworth place came into the possession of Avery Strong, a native of the Empire state. Three years later it was purchased by Ortin Barnum. Strong went to Otranto. James Davis, another settler of 1855, preëmpted the southeast quarter of section 22. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K, Fourth Regiment. After his return from the war he resumed farming, and remained a resident of this county several years. Dilarzon and Lorenzo Moshier, whose birthplace was in the state of New York, removed here from Pennsylvania, arriving in Lyle on the 14th of June, 1855. Dilarzon preëmpted in the northwestern

quarter of section 30. Lorenzo preëmpted in section 29, southwest quarter. He held possession three or four years only, then sold and went to Missouri. Finding it very unpleasant there, not to say unsafe, for a union man, during war times, he turned eastward, crossed the Mississippi river and spent a few years in the state of Illinois. From there he went to Texas, where he died in 1880. Richards was a Pennsylvanian, whom the summer of '55 brought to Lyle. He bought a claim of William Bean, on the west half of section 33, stayed on it five or six years, and then left for Vernon Springs, Iowa. West was a native of York State. He entered the northwest quarter of section 32, where he lived several years.

In 1856 came the following: Ezra D. Ames, Rev. Alanson Beach, John Beach, Wilson Beach, Erastus Bedford, Chester Calwell, Edward Calwell, Lewis Ebbers, Calvin H. Owen, Charles Owen, Rev. Samuel Loomis, Henry Roderts, William Shellbach, A. M. St. John, Joseph Thompson, William West. Ames, Bedford, Rev. Beach and his two sons, Loomis, the Owens, C. and H., St. John and West were natives of New York state. Samuel Surface, a Hoosier, came from Houston county early in the year and preëmpted land in sections 28 and 29. He built a log house and stables and improved a portion of his claim. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Regiment, and died in the service. Ezra D. Ames, hailing last from Indiana, entered the scene of this history in March, 1856. Preëmpting 120 acres in the northeast quarter of section 21, he lived there six months, and then bought a place in the northeast quarter of section 19. William Schellbach and Louis Ebbers, natives of Germany, were among the first immigrants of the new year. The former settled on the northwest quarter of section 34. Ebbers settled on the southwest of section 34. His death, which occurred before the close of the summer, was the second in the town. In July Rev. Alanson Beach and A. M. St. John bought land of Benjamin Coe in sections 32 and 33. They then returned to New York. In November of the same year Mr. Beach came again to Lyle, and established his home in the northwest quarter of section 33. His sons, John and Wilson, accompanied him. John Beach preëmpted the southwest quarter of section 26. Wilson preëmpted the southeast quarter of the same section. He was a single man and lived with his parents until after the war, when he settled on section 33. Charles Owen, a young man who came with the Beach family, entered the northwest of section 26, but did not make a permanent settlement. Returning to New York, he died before the close of the late war. William West arrived in the summer of 1856, and moved into the house that Alanson Beach had bought of Coe. Here for the next three months he did a lively business as

a tavern keeper. In the ensuing autumn, he moved on to the northwest of section 34, having previously entered the land. Joseph Thompson came over from Wisconsin and settled in the southeast of section 27. After living there two years he removed to Iowa. He served his country as a Union soldier in the war of the southern rebellion. At a subsequent date he went to California, where he died. Calvin H. Owen crossed the Iowa boundary line in the latter part of the year, and bought land and made a home in the northwest quarter of section 30. Rev. Samuel Loomis, a Methodist divine, came in the autumn and preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 19. Mr. Loomis enlisted in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Regiment. Discharged on account of disability in October, 1862, he returned to his home, where in December of that year he died. Edward and Chester Calwell came from the Keystone state. The former settled on the northwest of section 30, the latter on the southeast of section 19. Two years later they sold their lands and went to Kansas. Henry Roberts, an Englishman, arrived toward the close of the year, and bought Carrier's claim in section 20. W. M. Pace and Robert Lyle came to Mower county in November, 1856. In 1864 Pace settled on the south half of the southeast quarter of section 22. Robert Lyle was a native of Ohio. He was a judge of probate, and was the representative from this district to the state legislature. The town was named for him. In 1868 he removed to Missouri.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first white child born in Lyle township was Isaac Moshier, son of Dilarzon and Elizabeth (Milliken) Moshier. The date of his birth was August 16, 1855. The first death in the town was that of Mrs. Margary Bean, wife of William N. Bean, in March, 1856. She was buried within the limits of Woodbury cemetery long before it was surveyed. The next death was that of Louis Ebbers, a German, which occurred in the summer of the same year. His body was also interred in Woodbury cemetery. This cemetery is located in section 33.

CEDAR CITY.

The town of Lyle boasts of a locality known as Cedar City. Emigrants at an early day were attracted by this high sounding name, thinking it must denote a place of some importance. Andrew Gemmel often related that he stopped to make inquiry concerning it of the postmaster at St. Paul. The courteous official told him the location, and remarked that very likely he would find but one house there. The chosen site of this projected city

which never was built was in section 4. The land was first claimed by John Chandler. He, however, waived his claim in favor of Caleb Stock and John Phelps, who proposed to erect a mill. They began work there in 1856, putting in a substantial dam of stone and timber. A third party, T. N. Stone, was interested with them in this enterprise. Two mills were built, one furnished with a circular saw for sawing lumber, the other a grist mill, with one set of buhrs. In 1858 Stock traded his interest in the mill to George Phelps. The grist mill was completed in August of that year. One sack of wheat had been ground, when came a freshet and swept both mills down the stream. Thus the hopes of the company were blasted. The mills were never rebuilt. Owing to the fine water power at this point, people in the neighborhood once indulged in the pleasing expectation that Cedar City would become a formidable rival of Austin, even if it did not surpass it altogether. Circumstances determined it otherwise. Nothing now remains to mark the site of the imaginary city but the ruins of the old milldam.

Troy City was platted March 24, 1857, by John Tift, in parts of sections 4 and 9, township 101, range 18.

VILLAGE OF LYLE.

(By William Nordland.)

Lyle is a wideawake village of 552 inhabitants, located in section 36, Lyle township, eleven miles south of Austin, the county seat, and just north of the state line between Minnesota and Iowa. It has exceptional business opportunities, as it is located on three principal lines of railroad, viz.: The C., M. & St. P., the Chicago Great Western and the Illinois Central.

The surrounding country is one of the best and most highly cultivated agricultural districts in the Northwest. Farming is diversified, and this locality is famous for its good horses, dairy cows and the large number of hogs raised annually. This could not be done were it not for the fact that we are located in the corn belt. Lyle affords a good market for all grains, poultry, stock, fruit and all farm produce.

The city owns and operates its own water plant, which supplies its patrons from a drilled well 800 feet deep. Lyle has an Independent Telephone Company, which has 350 'phones in operation and connects with a large number of other companies. One of the things of which the village is proud is its cement walks, almost every street in the village being lined with them. The streets, business places and residences are lighted by a local electric light plant under the management of N. G. Fischer. One of the "busy" places is the canning factory. The Lyle corru-

gated culvert factory is also among the foremost industries. Other places of business are: A farmers' co-operative creamery, a tow mill, one feed mill, three elevators, three blacksmith shops, one lumber yard, one drug store, four general stores, one furniture store, two millinery stores, one shoe store, one jewelry store, one hardware store, one photo gallery, one tailor shop, one harness shop, one bank, one newspaper, two butcher shops, two hotels, two livery barns, one garage, two restaurants, two cream stations, two barber shops.

Lyle takes great pride in its large number of beautiful residences, well kept lawns and umbrageous trees. The park, located only one block from the business section of the village, is one of the creditable improvements, and is often the scene of pleasant social gatherings. The Lyle Concert Band is composed of local musicians and is ably led by B. J. Robertson.

Peter Hanson is one of the oldest residents of the village, having lived here since March 15, 1874, all of which time, with the exception of one year, he has been in the harness business. J. H. Sherman, who for many years had charge of the Hunting elevator, is also one of the early residents, still residing here. Another one of the early business men still residing in the village is O. T. Lind, dealer in groceries, dry goods, shoes, notions, etc. Some of the other early settlers are O. A. Anderson, the jeweler; John Norris, Sr.; D. D. Lione and A. B. Olsen.

The health of the residents of Lyle is looked after by three physicians, viz.: Dr. Cobb, Dr. Frazer and Dr. Torkelson. Dr. W. F. Cobb has practiced in this vicinity since 1874 and Dr. W. A. Frazer has been in Lyle for nearly a quarter of a century, having located here March 9, 1887. Dr. P. T. Torkelson established his office in Lyle in 1909.

Lyle was platted November 11, 1870, by Selah Chamberlain, D. C. Sheppard and Charles McIlrath.

THE CITY HALL.

The city hall was erected in 1906 at a cost of about \$8,000. The structure is a two-story cement brick building 40x80 feet. A part of the first floor is used by the fire department for their apparatus, etc. A large room on the east, known as the council chamber, is utilized for meetings of various kinds, both social and political. It is here that all elections are held and it is often the scene of a warm debate over questions of interest to the people. Back of the council room is a room for the marshal, and off from this is the city jail, which is a model of cleanliness and neatness. The second floor is a large hall with a seating capacity of 500, with a good roomy stage where scenery may be displayed

to advantage. The fire department has the management of this hall and provide for various amusements, entertainments, lectures, etc.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

On May 2, 1891, Lyle village was swept by fire, which left the greater portion of the business section in ashes and destroyed many of the early records, which would be very valuable for articles of this kind as well as in a thousand other ways. This fire as well as other occurrences made evident the urgent need of a fire department, consequently on October 21, 1895, a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a volunteer company. Ed Stanley was chosen chief and F. B. Losey elected secretary. After two months Editor E. F. Wilson was elected secretary to succeed Losey. Stanley was reelected chief and held the office until June 7, 1897, when George Robertson was elected chief and A. Phillipson was chosen secretary to succeed Wilson. Robertson continued to hold the office of chief, being reelected year after year until he was elected county auditor and moved to Austin in 1903. On June 14, 1898, Ed Stanley was elected secretary, which office he held until 1903, when R. P. Gibson succeeded him and J. H. Hughes became chief. Hughes and Gibson served for three years, when, in 1906, Gill Ferris was selected as head of the department in the place of Hughes and L. A. Sherman became scribe. After two years Carl Peterson was chosen chief, which office he held until February, 1911, when James Mortenson was elected. Ed Sherman succeeded L. A. Sherman as secretary August 26, 1909, when the latter resigned, having removed from the village. The company is composed of twenty-one members and its present officers are: James Mortenson, chief; O. G. Blakestad, treasurer; E. B. Sherman, secretary. The company owns about 1,000 feet of hose, hook and ladder and two hose carts, and all necessary equipments. Although the service is volunteer, all calls are promptly responded to and some heroic work has been done by these brave fire laddies.

CHURCHES.

Lyle has two churches, the Gospel Mission and the Congregational.

The former is an organization of true and devoted followers of the Saviour, who gather weekly for prayer and worship. They do not have a regular pastor, but often hold series of evangelistic services under the direction of traveling evangelists.

The Congregational church organization is a union of the Methodist Episcopal and Congregational bodies. The organization was incorporated April 24, 1886, and the church building was

dedicated January 30, 1887, the sermon being preached by Rev. J. H. Marley, state superintendent of the Home Missionary Society. Rev. J. S. Rounce was the first pastor. The parsonage was erected in 1896. The present pastor is Rev. A. G. Washington. The church has a flourishing Sunday school in connection, also a Christian Endeavor Society and an active Ladies' Aid Society. L. W. Sherman, one of the pioneer settlers of Lyle, who is now a resident of Minneapolis, was for many years one of the mainstays of the evangelical body.

POSTOFFICE AND BANK.

The postoffice and bank are described elsewhere in this history.

PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Lyle Public School. Lyle has a \$15,000 public school building with a full corps of instructors, taking the children from the primary department through the four years of the high school course, with special instructors in the agricultural and manual training departments. The school board consists of: President, Dr. W. S. Cobb; secretary, B. J. Robertson; treasurer, H. G. Dahl; members, C. M. Anderson, J. O. Johnson and W. L. Cole. The faculty consists of: Superintendent, W. H. Detamore; principal, Goldie Garl; department of manual training, E. H. Vinton; department of agriculture, W. J. Rhoades; teachers, Ida Southmayd, Erma Wilcox, Fanny Hendy and Alice Roots. The district is No. 90. It was organized in 1873, being formed mostly from the easterly part of No. 15 or Minnereka. The first schoolhouse was built the same year on lots 11 and 12 in block 4, which were presented to the school board by the proprietor of the town plat. It was a small building, 16x26, and seated in the old-fashioned way, the desks extending around three sides, attached to the walls, with benches for seats. S. Anna McCune, of Austin, was the first teacher. The district was made independent a year or two later. In the year 1877 a large two-room building was erected, and about the year 1896 a two-room addition was constructed. This continued to be the home of the public school until 1906, when the present high school was erected, and the old site with the buildings sold.

FRATERNAL ORDERS.

Among the social and fraternal orders Lyle has had her quota, and among them we might mention the M. B. A. Lodge, No. 333; Willow Wood Camp, No. 565; Knights of Pythias, No. 59; the Railroad Order of Trainmen, I. O. G. T., No. 31, and the A. F.

and A. M., Alma Lodge, No. 131. Of the above orders, the Masonic, the K. P., the M. W. A. and the M. B. A. survive.

Alma Lodge, No. 131, A. F. & A. M. The Masonic Lodge has had a steady and substantial growth from the time the local lodge received its charter, in 1878, from the Grand Lodge of Minnesota. The very nature of the order does not permit applicants to be taken in by the wholesale, as is the custom in many lodges, yet new and appreciative members have been constantly added, and the work has been successfully carried on, year in and year out, until over 200 men, free born and of lawful age, have become affiliated with this branch of the world-wide organization. Alma Lodge meets regularly on the first and third Friday evenings of each month, in their hall, due east and west, over Dahl Bros.' store. The present officers are: O. A. Dahl, W. M.; J. W. Johnson, S. W.; Chris Johnson, J. W.; Wm. Nordland, secretary; F. M. Beach, treasurer; Ole Running, S. D.; Louis Blakestad, J. D.; Asmun Olson, tyler; Geo. M. Anderson, S. S.; Dr. P. T. Torkelson, J. S.; Dr. W. F. Cobb, prelate; S. H. Dahl, marshal. The lodge is very strong socially and financially, and is liberally sharing the cares and burdens of its unfortunate members, who need aid. The special feature of this order is its well informed brethren. Alma Lodge had its inception in the early days of the village, when many orders came into existence and flourished for a time, then were lost in oblivion. But Free Masonry still survives.

Knights of Pythias. The wide-awake and enterprising members of the Knights of Pythias Lodge are not to be overlooked in a write-up of Lyle and its history, for they toil and spin incessantly, and their rapid growth proves the constant activities of the order. The work of the lodge is creditably handled by well informed members, but this is only one of the many features of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Lyle. Its hospitable members and social functions have made the lodge and club rooms one of the most popular rendezvous in this section of the country. The lodge received their charter in 1889, but the great fire in 1891 destroyed the original, and a new one was granted September 9, 1891. Dr. W. A. Frazer is the only one of the original charter members now residing in Lyle. During the last twenty-two years many candidates have wandered through the desert and become useful members of the order. Besides a large membership, the lodge today boasts of having a two-story brick building of their own, which was erected in 1891. The rooms on the first floor are occupied by the drug store and the second story is occupied by the Knights. In addition to this hall, they have a cozy club room adjoining the hall, which is neatly fitted up for the amusement of the members. Following are the officers: A. George, C. C.; N. E.

Fedson, V. C.; W. F. Cobb, prelate; Ed. Hildebrand, K. of R. & S.; W. L. Cole, M. of F.; Nick Severson, M. of E.; Chas. Howard, M. of W.; Earl Vinton, M. at A.; John Olson, inner guard; Claude Hildebrand, outer guard; F. E. Wilder, trustee for three years.

The Modern Woodmen of America. About a quarter of a century ago, the Modern Woodmen of America made their appearance in Lyle, and organized a camp, of which Peter Hanson is the only remaining charter member residing in the village. The order is known as Willow Wood Camp, No. 565. They maintain quarters in the Peterson hall, where they hold their regular meetings the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month. The camp is in good active and financial condition, and especially of late has it held its own in adding new material and strength to its large list of members. E. L. Stanley was the first Venerable Counsel and J. S. Schuyler the first Scribe. The camp is at present officered by the following: Fred Wyborne, V. C.; Chris Johnson, W. A.; John Schumacher, banker; O. G. Blakestad, clerk; M. M. Dunbar, escort; Frank Peterman, watchman; Frank Cafourck, sentry; Ole Running, manager for three years; Dr. Cobb, physician; Dr. Torkelson, assistant.

Modern Brotherhood of America. One of the latter fraternal organizations of the village is the Modern Brotherhood of America, Lyle Lodge, No. 333. This order was first introduced into Lyle about twelve years ago, and today has quite a large membership. Ladies are admitted to membership in this lodge, which has a tendency to strengthen the social part of the order. Their meetings are held in the Masonic Hall on the second and fourth Saturday evenings of the month. Officers elected to supervise the business of the organization are: Peter Anderson, president; T. Thompson, vice-president; C. M. Anderson, secretary and treasurer; Tom Murphy, chaplain; Ben Helfritz, conductor; George Larson, watchman; Sam Olson, sentry; trustees, Osmun Olson, T. H. Murphy, D. E. Erickson.

INDUSTRIES.

Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company. The village of Lyle is closely associated with the corrugated pipe industry, for it was here, in 1905, that the first corrugated pipe seen in this section of the country was manufactured. The Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company was organized by parties from Ohio, who began operations in a small way, choosing Lyle as a suitable point for manufacturing purposes, on account of its splendid railroad facilities. After continuing in the business for about one year, A. B. Wilder



W. F. COBB, M. D.

and Frank M. Beech became interested in the project, and the Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company, as it now exists, was organized. The company at once began operations on a larger scale, and soon established the branch plant at Minneapolis, where subsequently the head office was moved. The business has increased wonderfully within the last three years, and the manufacturing plant at Lyle is one of the assets of the village.

The Lyle Telephone Company was organized March 27, 1902, and incorporated for \$20,000, and for thirty years. The above sum was divided into 400 shares at \$50 each and sold at par. The highest amount of indebtedness permitted is \$10,000. The names and places of residence of the persons forming this corporation are as follows: E. L. Stanley, R. Reiersen, W. F. Cobb, J. L. Hughson, A. M. Wilson, George Robertson, L. A. Sherman, A. B. Wilder, F. M. Beach, O. T. Lund and C. W. Lacy, all of Lyle; John Bergason and Rahne Brothers, of Deer Creek, Iowa, and H. D. Fairbanks, of Austin. Each took five shares. The following stockholders were elected directors: E. L. Stanley, John Bergason, W. F. Cobb, George Robertson and R. Reiersen. The first meeting of the board of directors was held April 1, 1902. John Bergason was elected president; George Robertson, vice-president; E. L. Stanley, secretary, and W. F. Cobb, treasurer. In April, 1905, the stockholders voted to bond the company for \$5,000 and pay all outstanding indebtedness, which was accordingly done. The first annual statement shows a capital stock paid in of \$7,500 and a surplus cash on hand of \$416.16. The last annual statement shows common stock issued, \$8,350; preferred stock, \$1,470; invested in plant, \$17,816.06; outstanding indebtedness, \$3,150; outstanding accounts, cash and material on hand, \$886.61. After the first year the company has always paid its stockholders an annual dividend and for the last seven years the company has paid a dividend of 6 per cent, placing the balance of the net earnings in the sinking fund.

From this showing it will be seen that the Lyle Telephone Company is a live organization. Compared with other telephone lines in rural communities, it stands high, and the service it renders is exceptionally good. Its connections with three long-distance lines give its patrons a service that is metropolitan in its complexion. Its officers at this time are: W. F. Cobb, president; Charles Howard, vice-president; B. J. Robertson, secretary; A. B. Wilder, treasurer, and John Bergason, director. The company employs three operators and gives almost continual service, a few hours on Sunday being the exception. Its business relations with other companies have always been pleasant as well as profitable. The future of this company promises success the same as in the past.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

The first meeting of the village council of Lyle was held May 17, 1875, and the august body was composed of the following named persons: L. W. Sherman, mayor and justice of the peace; John Trodler, O. H. Lucken and P. H. McLaughlin, councilmen; T. H. Irgens, treasurer; John C. Taskerud, recorder; Peter Knutson, constable, and P. Laughlin, assessor.

Since then L. W. Sherman has served the people of Lyle twice in the capacity of mayor. Seventeen others filled this office with the number of terms as follows: P. H. McLaughlin succeeded Mr. Sherman after three years with two terms, when Peter Hanson was elected and held the office one term. Frank Jereback followed Peter Hanson with two years in the chair, and T. H. Irgens succeeding, serving three years. L. W. Sherman was then elected again and held the office one year. L. D. Carter, E. L. Stanley, O. T. Lund, O. G. Myhre followed with one term each, when L. W. Sherman was again elected mayor and held office one term. Geo. Robertson and A. M. Wilson followed with one term each and R. Reiersen succeeded Wilson and held the office two years. In 1897, P. A. Johnson was chosen mayor and served three terms. He was followed by W. F. Cobb. W. E. LeBaron was next elected and held the office for three terms, when he was succeeded by F. M. Beach, who, after two years in the office, was followed by Jens Larson in 1908, who has since had the honor of swinging the gavel.

At a meeting of the first village council, May 18, 1875, it was decided to hold all regular meetings of the council on the first Monday of each month, and this rule has always been adhered to. The first order was drawn for \$11.25, in favor of H. Wiseman, for painting the village "lock-up." For the first four years the annual village election was held in May, but on March 11, 1879, a special charter election was held and the second Tuesday in March has since been known as a "red letter" day in the village.

Those who have served in the capacity of recorder since the village was organized are many, and with one or two exceptions were expert penmen. The list is as follows: John C. Taskerud, four months; Wm. Stanley, five years; E. O. Fausett, one year; W. T. Dudley, three years; L. D. Carter, one year; J. S. Jacobson, one year; E. L. Stanley, two years; J. S. Schuyler, five years; J. A. Curran, four years; John Gould, five years; L. A. Sherman, six years; and George M. Anderson, our present incumbent, has served in that capacity the past three years.

RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY LYLE.

(By L. W. Sherman.)

Early settlers of Mower county relate that until the spring of the year 1870 the ground where now stands the town of which I write was part of an extensive prairie extending to the limit of sight on either hand, except for a fringe of timber along the Cedar river on the west and the noted "Six-Mile Grove" to the east. No laborer's spade or farmer's plow had overturned the sod of its rich soil to the light of the warming sun. All was vast, vacant and still.

In that year came the construction crews of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company, building the "cut-off" between Austin and Mason City. Lyle was then established as a station on the line, taking its name from the township of which it was a part. It was platted June 18, 1870, and the plat was filed in the office of the register of deeds of Mower county, November 10 of the same year.

O. N. Darling was the first station agent. Bassett, Hunting & Co., of McGregor, Iowa, built the first grain warehouse, and their agent, W. H. Culton, became the first grain buyer.

The town at once became prominent as a market, owing to rivalry with Mona, Iowa, one mile south, then the terminus of the Cedar Falls branch of the Illinois Central Railroad.

E. Hoxsie was for several years conductor of the "mixed" passenger and freight train running over the "cut-off," and it became noted far and near as "Hoxsie's train," the name "Milwaukee" being scarcely known and little used to designate road or train.

The first "mart of trade" consisted of a few boards nailed up into a shack or shanty. The goods for sale were kept in kegs, jugs and bottles, and usually carried away "inside" the purchasers. A prominent citizen of the vicinity venturing to protest against this to the superintendent of the railroad and proprietor of the town plat, received the unsatisfactory answer: "You can't build up a town here in the west without a saloon."

Thor. Irgens established the first general store, and was commissioned the first postmaster. J. R. Hall was the first blacksmith, mingling his duties as village smithy with others of an official character, being justice of the peace under authority of the township. He soon disposed of his business interests and was succeeded by John Reinschmidt, a strenuous and somewhat noted character, well remembered by the old residents.

The first lumber yard was opened by L. A. Page, who soon disposed of his interests to Culton, the grain buyer.

The first hotel was conducted by John Trodler and wife. Their chief revenue was from the sale of liquor at the bar.

The first shoemaker was Peter Johnson, he being succeeded by everybody's friend, B. D. Hedemark, who continued in the same line until mown down by "the grim reaper" in 1909.

Peter Hanson made the first harness in the new village, and still continues in the same business, though in late years badly handicapped by broken health.

The first drug business was conducted by Williams & Scarf, who also dispensed "spirituous, vinous and malt liquors."

The first hardware firm was Fausset & Gunderson. They, too, sold liquors under license.

Wold & Olson were pioneers in the furniture and upholstering business, while Andrew B. Johnson opened up and conducted the first watch repairing and jewelry establishment.

John Hader and Philip Schodron were the first butchers and purveyors of meats to the people of the vicinity.

Lyle was incorporated as a village by special act of the state legislature, approved March 9, 1875. The first officers elected under this act were as follows: Mayor, L. W. Sherman; recorder, J. C. Taskerud; treasurer, Th. Irgens; marshal, Peter Knutson; assessor, Ph. McLaughlin; city justice, L. W. Sherman, John Trodler; councilmen, O. H. Lucken, Ph. McLaughlin. The first meeting of the council was held May 17, 1875.

The first bank, "The Exchange," was established a short time after the destructive fire of 1892, by A. H. Anderson. In the year 1900 this was merged in "The First National," Mr. Anderson becoming its first president, and serving in that capacity until his death in 1910.

The first religious services were held in the waiting room of the Milwaukee depot, conducted by Rev. Wm. Lowry, a Presbyterian minister residing in Freeborn county. These were soon discontinued, owing to lack of interest. No other services in English were maintained until Rev. J. S. Rounce, of Rose Creek, commenced the first continuous work, holding semi-weekly meetings in the schoolhouse. These resulted in the organization of the first church society, the Congregational, in March, 1886, and the erection of the first church building the same year.

In 1873 C. R. Hughson organized the first Sabbath school in the small first school building. This he, as superintendent, with some others interested, maintained for a considerable time and made a small beginning, at least, in arousing children and parents to their need of spiritual development through religious instruction.

In the early days the village constituted a part of school dis-

trict No. 15, known as "Minnereka." The distance of the schoolhouse from town prevented all but the larger scholars from attending, so a private school was started by subscription, and taught by Miss Clark, who thus became first teacher. The district was divided in 1873, and No. 90 was formed, a small schoolhouse erected, and the first organized school was taught by S. Anna McCune, of Austin.

But these recollections of pioneer times, being mostly fragments of memory, are not and cannot be reliable history, for with advancing age the faculties of mind are apt to play sad tricks upon us. Yet should be called to mind the names and achievements of many first citizens. Such men as C. H. Cole and H. B. Dow, John Halvorson, Peter Knutson, J. O. and A. O. Myhre, M. O. Wilson, O. T. Lund, P. K. Everson and R. Reiersen, all merchants of success, as well as the Stanleys, father and son, L. W. Sherman, the lumberman, and J. H., his brother, buyer for many years at the Hunting elevator; the Hildebrands, brothers four, and many others, more or less successful in building up their own interests, helped to advance the growth of trade, and the establishment of civic improvement.

Two events of note, as affecting the surrounding region and, incidentally, the people of the village, are recalled, the first being the great storm or "blizzard" of January 7 to 10, 1873, which, sweeping over the whole Northwest with great violence and severity, caused much suffering and damage to the surprise and unprepared inhabitants; country roads and railroads were blockaded and business well nigh suspended for weeks following.

The other to be named was the unrivaled crop of wheat in 1877, bringing abundance and prosperity for the time and, through hopes of a continuance of these conditions, stimulating many into extravagance and debt. But this year of plenty was followed the next and after years by an almost total failure of wheat, compelling a radical change in the methods of farming, with a resulting depression of business until the readjustment was effected.

An event of terror and painful loss was the great fire of May 2, 1892, when was swept away, in a few hours, almost the entire business of the town, with a destruction of property and merchandise amounting to many thousands of dollars. To many, the loss was almost unbearable, but the shock was soon overcome, hope and courage revived, resulting in rebuilding of a more substantial character and re-establishment of business.

So, though Lyle has passed through many seasons of prosperity, and some also of unfortunate conditions, still the trust and energy of her people are an assurance that the future has much hope and promise for her prosperity and improvement.

LYLE IN 1873.

Following is a brief directory of Lyle, published in 1873, when the village was in the earliest years of its growth. At that time three railroads formed a junction at this point, the Mason City branch of the Milwaukee and St. Paul, the Illinois Central, and the Burlington and Cedar Rapids, the latter running trains over the tracks of the Milwaukee and St. Paul road as far south as Plymouth Junction and north to Austin, there connecting with trains for St. Paul and McGregor. The Chicago and Milwaukee had erected a station and O. N. Darling was the agent. The merchants were: Irgens & Knutson, Scarf & Williams, Olson & Co., L. W. Sherman, and Peter Johnson. S. D. Mecord was a grain buyer; John Trodler kept a boarding house and John Reinsmith was the blacksmith.

LYLE IN 1885.

In 1885 Lyle had already become a railroad center. The tracks at that time were laid as follows: "The two main lines of road, Minnesota and Northwestern and Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, run side by side, one hundred feet apart, almost due north for ten miles in a straight line. The east track is the original one and crosses the new one at the south edge of the village, bearing off to the southwest to Mason City, Iowa. Another road leaves the west main track, a few rods north of the crossing just mentioned, and bears to the west by south to Manley Junction on the Iowa Central. This road is not quite complete. The road running due south is owned by the Minnesota and Northwestern, eighty rods to the state line, and thence by the Illinois Central."

A brief business directory, published in the fall of the year, gives these names: W. Stanley & Son, Myhre & Lund, John O. Myhre, J. F. Humel, dealers in general merchandise; A. H. Anderson, hardware; L. W. Sherman, lumber and coal; B. D. Hedemark, leather, boots and shoes; Th. Irgens, postmaster; J. H. Sherman, elevator man; Evenson & Stovern, dealers in farm machinery; J. K. Clark, drayman; E. Johnson, furniture dealer and undertaker; Peter Hansen, harnessmaker; Thomas Kirby, grain buyer; W. West, boarding house; A. Webber, blacksmith; C. Junger, refreshments; Dr. W. F. Cobb, physician; O. G. Myhre, leader brass band.

SERIOUS CYCLONE.

Lyle was visited by a serious cyclone on the evening of June 11, 1897. Two clouds came together about a mile north of the Iowa line and five miles west of the village of Lyle, taking a zig-zag course nearly east, blowing down buildings, uprooting trees

and demolishing everything in its path, even blowing freight cars from the track and across fields. Henry C. Hanson, a young farmer living west of the village, was killed. Among the seriously injured were: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hanson and Robert Hanson; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Larson, Mrs. Stipe, Christian Mads and Peter Peterson, Charles Severson, Mrs. W. A. Fraser, Mrs. M. L. Hughson, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Brooks.

The first house struck was that of Mrs. Funda, where it tore off an addition. The course of the storm from there on with its attendant damages was as follows: J. C. Owen, buildings destroyed, family in cellar unhurt. Charles Howard, barn destroyed. Woodbury schoolhouse smashed to splinters. Charles Seaverson, skull fractured, buildings demolished. W. Stipe, house and barn destroyed, Mrs. Stipe injured. John Johnson, buildings ruined. Mrs. Lars Berg, new house destroyed. Joseph Wyborny, all buildings totally destroyed. Henry Hanson, killed, buildings destroyed, Mrs. Hanson and three children badly injured. Peter Peterson, all seriously injured and buildings destroyed. The storm struck Lyle village north of the Chicago Great Western round house, tipped over two freight cars standing on the Milwaukee track, blew the wheel off the city waterworks tower, and thence continued east, destroying everything in its path. One of the most remarkable escapes was that of the Peter Hanson family, living in the village. He was erecting a new house and he and his family of six, with three visitors, were eating supper in the barn which stood just west of the new house. The storm blew barn, family and house across the prairie. Peter Hanson had a leg broken, his wife had a rib broken and was internally injured, and the son Robert received a terrible blow on the forehead. The guests were also seriously injured. Charles Larson was badly bruised about his head, his wife and child were seriously injured, and their house and barn demolished. The storm demolished Dr. Frazier's barn, dodged his residence, and then destroyed the residence of Chris. Christensen. Mrs. Nelson, living two miles east of the village, had a barn and granary destroyed. Rev. Eggen had a wind-mill blown down. Willis E. Bryan saw the storm coming and took his family to the cellar and stand against the west wall. Every stick of timber in the house was blown away, but the family escaped injury, with the exception of Mr. Bryan, who had his foot smashed by a falling rock. The estimated loss caused by the storm was about \$30,000. Had the path of the cyclone been two blocks farther south, the whole village of Lyle would have been wiped out. About three miles east of Lyle, the storm lost its rotary motion, and continued as a heavy wind.

(Note.—The publishers of this history are indebted to William Nordland, the energetic Lyle editor, for the above excellent write-

up on Lyle village, the history of the telephone company being from the pen of Dr. W. F. Cobb, and the recollections being furnished by L. W. Sherman, now of Minneapolis.)

CHAPTER XXXII.

DEXTER TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Dexter Township—Location and Soil—Settlement—Organization—Religious—Dexter Village—Location and Settlement—Village Plats—Village Incorporation and Officers with Village Improvements—Churches—Edited by Henry Weber, Jr.—Renova—Sutton.

Dexter is identical with congressional township 103 north, range 16 west. It is almost wholly a prairie, with a surface somewhat rolling. The drainage is east, west, north and south, and it is claimed that Dexter is the highest point on the Southern Minnesota division of the C., M. & St. P. R. R., between La Crosse, Wis., and Madison, S. D. The only native timber to be found in the town is in the southeastern part. The soil is a dark productive loam, somewhat mixed with sand in the southern part, and also on the banks of Root river in the northern section.

SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement within the limits of Dexter township was made in 1857 by Mahlon Parritt and his son, Dexter, who came here from the town of Marshall, where they had spent the summer. The son entered the southeast quarter of section 33. Here was the home of the father until the time of his death. Dexter Parritt, in whose honor the town was named, lived here till 1882, and then moved to Marshall. For a number of years the Parritts were the only settlers in the town. Dexter Parritt finally returned to his native state, Ohio, and there died in about the year of 1903. G. W. Bowles came to Dexter in 1859, stayed but a short time and then went to Missouri. Returning thence in 1867, he settled on the northeast quarter of section 33, where he remained till 1879, when he sold his place to George Menck. Henry L. Slaven settled in the east half of the northwest quarter of section 34, in 1866. Slaven came to Mower county in company with his mother in the fall of 1856, and lived for some years in Windom. In 1873 he went to Fort Dodge, Iowa. The year 1867 brought John Pete

here from Wisconsin. Mr. Pete was a native of England, and settled on the southwest quarter of section 7. In 1868, Hammond Stowell, a native of Ohio, and his son-in-law, C. J. Shortt, a Vermonter, bought 1,600 acres of land in sections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 17. They broke 160 acres of land that year, making their home on the northeast quarter of section 7. After living there one year, Stowell sold to Ira Jones and went to Hastings. Shortt remained six years and then went to Brownsdale. John I. Wheeler, Joseph Cronk and George Rose, son-in-law of the latter, also came in 1868. Wheeler bought a large tract of land in sections 5 and 6. After living there three years, he moved to Freeborn county, having sold his place to Dr. S. P. Thornhill. The farm was then occupied for a time by Dr. Thornhill's son, French, later a practicing physician at Spring Valley. Cronk and Rosa settled in the northwest quarter of the town, where they lived but a short time. Hiram Thompson, a native of the State of New York, was another who arrived in '68. He bought the southeast quarter of section 27, where he still resides. In 1869, Henry Dudfield, Daniel Pearce and Nelson A. Huntington came to Dexter. Dudfield and Pearce, both Englishmen by birth, had been living for some time in Wisconsin. The former settled on section 21. He was a blacksmith, the first of that trade in the town. Pearce settled on section 22. Huntington, a native of New York, came here from Wabasha county, and bought the southwest quarter of section 3, where he died in 1882. Two who took farms in sections 11, namely, Daniel Williams and A. G. Tanner, settled here in 1874. Williams was a native of the Empire State. S. E. Peters, another who came in 1874, settled on section 2.

As before mentioned, the Parritts were for several years the only settlers. In 1855 the land of Chatfield district was brought into market from the Mississippi to the west line of Mower county. The scattering settlers, mostly unprepared to pay for their land at once and not wishing to be surrounded and isolated by the lands of speculators, petitioned President Pierce to withdraw the sale. Six townships north and south through the prairie center of Mower county had no settlers and no names on the petition, and were not withdrawn, but were speedily entered with land warrants.

In the year 1876, 1877 and 1878 there was quite a boom in the settlement of the town. The following are named as having come to Dexter in that period: D. W. Adams, B. Cornforth, G. Seebach, Conrad Christgau with his sons, John and Fred, Conrad Praeschal, W. Arndt. — French, G. Gilliland, O. P. Johnson, Pat F. Lynch, J. M. Peterson, O. Radway, Luther Rice, A. and R. Starks. The last eight settled in the north part of the town, Rice on section 1, Radway on section 12, Johnson on section 2, Peterson and the

two Starks on section 3, Gilliland and Lynch on section 10; French settled on section 22. Adams was born in the State of New York. He came here from Olmsted county and settled on the northeast quarter of section 35. Seebach and Christgau settled in section 32. Proeschal located in section 30, Arndt in section 31.

ORGANIZATION.

The town of Dexter was organized at a meeting held at the house of Henry Dudfield, in the southeast quarter of section 21, on June 6, 1870. The stars and stripes were raised on a pole in front of the house in honor of the occasion. Dexter Parritt was chosen moderator, D. G. Pearce, clerk, and Charles N. Pearce, assistant clerk of the meeting. H. S. Slaven, Charles Brandt and Charles Blakely were appointed judges of election. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: Supervisors, Dexter Parritt (chairman), Henry Dudfield, F. W. Thornhill; C. J. Shortt and Hiram Thompson, justices of the peace; D. G. Pearce, assessor; Nelson Huntington, treasurer; D. G. Pearce, clerk; H. S. Slaven and Nelson Huntington, constables.

RELIGIOUS.

The German Lutheran Church. Church services were first held in 1881 by Rev. Christian Bender, of Red Wing. The first members were Conrad Christgau, Gotlieb Seebach, John and Fred Christgau, G. Betcher, W. F. Jacobi and their wives. The first deacons were Conrad Christgau and wife, W. F. Jacobi and John Christgau. Rev. Mr. Bender was the first pastor. Among the early pastors were Rev. John Achilles, of St. Paul; Rev. Mr. Kittle, of Albert Lea, and Rev. O. Hoger. Conrad Christgau was the first superintendent of a Sunday school which was formed in connection with this church.

Rev. Hager occupied the pulpit from 1883 to 1886. The church was formally organized in 1883, under the name of Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation of the town of Dexter. The first trustees were C. Christgau, J. Christgau and W. Jacobi. Church services were now being held and continued to be held in the schoolhouse of district number 106, until the present church edifice on northwest corner of section 32 was erected in 1891 and was dedicated on the thirtieth day of August of the same year. The church schoolhouse was built in 1898. The Rev. Haar, Brunsz and Zich in turn were pastors from 1887 to 1896, and then Rev. Pohley to 1902, when the present pastor, Rev. J. Guse, took charge of the work.

A Wesleyan Methodist class was organized here by Rev. Thomas Hardy. The first members were Mr. and Mrs. W. P.

Hoppin, Delia and Mina Hanna, George Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Eben Gould. The class leader was W. P. Hoppin. E. Markham and W. P. Hoppin were elected stewards. The class met for a time in Pearce's hall, then in the Congregational church, and later in the new schoolhouse. Rev. Mr. Hardy was the preacher until 1881.

DEXTER VILLAGE.

Dexter village is situated in section 13, in the township of Dexter, near the geographical center of the county. Both village and township take their name from Dexter Parritt, who was an early settler of the township which was organized June 6, 1872. The village was laid out in 1873, the depot erected in 1874 and the village incorporated by act of the legislature in February, 1878. At the present time it is a thriving village with a population of some three hundred. It has a bank, a hotel, two elevators, a creamery, a Congregational and Seven Day Advent churches, a public school, a postoffice and various business interests.

At the time the building of the Southern Minnesota railroad was being agitated, which was in 1870, Red Rock and Dexter, then forming one civil township, were bonded to the amount of \$22,000 to assist the railroad. After Dexter was organized as a separate township, it offered to the railroad company a bonus of \$5,000 to plant a station on section 16. Of this proposition the company took no notice whatever. It was afterward learned that they were bound by Brownsdale people not to establish a station within eight miles of that place.

The land on which the village of Dexter now stands, a little more than eight miles distant from Brownsdale, was at the time owned by C. W. Perkins. One-half of this land Perkins gave to J. C. Easton, and they together platted the village in 1874. The first house in the village was a small building put up by the railroad company for a depot and telegraph office; the second was a warehouse owned by J. C. Easton; the third was a frame building 18x28 feet, 16 feet posts, erected by Daniel G. Pearce, and used by him for a store and dwelling. Mr. Pearce's store was opened in 1874 with a small but varied stock of goods. In the autumn of the same year George W. Buck erected a building 22x50 feet, 20 feet posts, and put in a good stock of general merchandise. Buck was in trade continuously until November, 1883, when he sold the stock to his son, George A. Buck, and C. S. Wooster. Within a few years he repurchased the same and remained in business until his death in 1906. The postoffice was established in 1874. It was for a time kept at the railway station. Amasa N. Converse, the first postmaster, was succeeded in the early days by John L. Gaskill, L. M. Gaskill, George W. Buck.

O. J. Dickens, P. Sheridan, B. S. Benner and finally by E. W. Dorr, who is now, with the assistance of two rural mail carriers, Chase and Gilmore, handing the mail to Uncle Sam's patrons.

In 1876 Pearce moved his goods into a new and larger store. Here he continued in business till 1877, when he sold out to his son George. Toward the close of the year 1883 Mr. Pearce, the elder, again opened a store in the house he had first built. Later Daniel Pearce moved to Wisconsin, where he died in 1906.

In 1876 John Gaskill rented a building of L. B. Smith, where he kept a grocery store and restaurant about a year. He then made a change in his business. Dealing no longer in groceries he engaged more extensively in the sale of farm machinery, which he had previously handled in connection with his store.

In 1878 E. Mapes rented a building, stocked it with general merchandise and started his son in business. The enterprise not being wholly successful, in two years' time the store was closed.

Late in 1876 Jesse and Samuel King bought a building in which they opened a meat market, the first in Dexter. In the following spring they put in groceries. They were in trade but a short time. The business passed through several hands before it was finally closed.

Oliver J. Dickens opened a grocery store in the autumn of 1883.

The first drug store in this village was started in 1875, by Joseph Simmons, in the building later occupied by Benner Brothers as a hardware store. In the spring of 1876 Mr. Simmons turned over the stock of drugs to his son, Rollon Simmons, a practicing physician, who sold out a few months later to Pettit & Stewart. This firm kept drugs for a time in connection with groceries. Another druggist was George Pearce, who continued in business until the fire of 1897. It was about this time that E. W. Dorr opened a store for the sale of drugs and since that time has been and now is the only druggist of the village.

The first hardware store was opened in 1874, by L. R. Smith, who was in trade rather less than two years. The second was opened by Henry Dudfield, in 1875. Dudfield purchased the hardware stock of L. B. Smith, and a building from Joseph Simmons. In November, 1876, David M. Vermilyea opened a hardware store in the building first erected by Mr. Pearce. Vermilyea was at this time in the employ of Walter Dixon, of Eyota, in whose interest he managed the store for a year. At the end of that time he, David M., with John K. and James J. Vermilyea, bought the stock. The business was conducted by the Vermilyeas until 1879, when it was sold to Henry Benner, who also bought Dudfield's building. The business was later conducted by his sons, George and Bion Benner, and they, within a few years, dis-

posed of the same and were succeeded in that line of business by C. H. Hopkins, C. O. Juelson, Hoppin and Owen, M. D. Williams, Vermilyea and Reed, W. E. Daily, Reed and Naves, and by Solt and Jacobson.

The first grain buyer here was Amasa N. Converse, who first represented J. C. Easton, and later Wheeler & Hyde. The following named also purchased grain in Dexter in the early days: W. P. Hoppin, Seth Keifer, G. Olson, Abner Hunt, A. J. Haskins, A. Gallipean, Charles Anton, J. Riddleton, Aleck Stewart, Alvah Hunt and George Hartwell.

The lumber yard was started by the La Crosse Lumber Company in 1874, whose agent in Dexter was Amasa N. Converse. John Paul purchased the business three or four years later. He later was represented here by George H. Bryan. The lumber yard was finally bought by the Amian Lumber Company, and run by that firm until 1896, when it was transferred to and continued by the Colman Lumber Company, and is still under its management at the present time.

The first hotel in Dexter was built by D. A. Page in 1872. It was opened to the traveling public in August. The building of the second was begun in September, by Robert Swann. This, too, was ready for occupancy before the close of the year. Mr. Page's was a frame building, standing close to the railroad track on the south. It contained, as first built, nine rooms. Page managed the house for two years, then rented to J. L. Gaskill, who rented a few months later to M. D. Chamberlain. About a year afterward the house was closed. In 1880 O. F. Kelly purchased the property. The house was re-opened for a time as a hotel and later was occupied by D. L. Stiles, who was in the drug and merchandise business. The building was destroyed by the fire of 1897. The building put up by Mr. Swann as a hotel was situated north of the railroad and contained twenty-one rooms. Mr. Swann continued as manager of this house till June, 1884, when he leased it to Z. D. Horne. It was afterwards managed and run as a hotel by C. Pearce, Warren and Vandenoever, O. J. Simmons, B. Warn, F. Nolting, H. A. Wilmot and C. W. Howe.

The first harness making shop was opened here in 1877, by Frank Stimson, who sold after a few months to A. C. Warren and removed to Brownsdale. Some six months later Warren sold out to A. N. Converse. From his hands the shop very soon passed into those of a man named Nichols, who held it about a year and then closed up. J. Sherman opened a shop in 1879.

The first to set up shoe making in Dexter was Henry Olson, who represented the craft about a year, beginning in 1879. Robert Behring, his successor, seems to have been a little more contented, as his stay was considerably longer. Frank Trippie was another

early shoe maker, who was followed by Johnson and finally by T. K. Berven, who is still engaged in that business.

The first physician to open an office here was Roilon Simmons, M. D., who came in 1875, remained two or three years and then returned to Indiana. His successor was L. D. Jackson, who went from here to Grand Meadow. Dr. Cormick was the third who undertook to make a living by looking after the health of the people of Dexter. He spent but a year in the place, then went to Dakota. Dr. G. J. Schottler located here in 1896 and has ever since been looking after the physical welfare of the people of this locality.

The railroad station in Dexter was built in 1875, 30x70 feet. One end was used as an office and waiting room; the other as a storage room for freight. This building constituted the depot until it was destroyed by the fire of 1897, when it was replaced by another building erected a little farther west, and which still continues as the railway station of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. Charles H. Pearce was the first station agent and operator. He was succeeded by C. G. King, and the latter by E. E. Bulin.

DEXTER IN 1879.

Following is a brief business directory of Dexter in 1879: S. G. Pettit & Co. (A. Stewart), drugs, collection, grain and lumber agents; G. W. Buck, general store; W. Steppe, furniture; E. Mapes, general store; J. K. Vermilyea & Co., hardware; Dexter Cornet Band; G. D. Pierce, general store; Robert Behring, shoe-maker; J. L. Gaskill, farm implements and machinery; Havens & Vermilya, wagon makers; J. C. Barry, farm machinery, seeds and fuel; Robert Swann, proprietor the Swan hotel; L. M. Gaskill, postmaster and collection agent; L. D. Jackson, M. D., physician; Congregational church.

DEXTER IN 1889.

In 1889 Dexter had the following business interests: L. M. Gaskill, notion store; O. J. Dickens, postmaster, general store; G. D. Buck, general store; J. A. King, hardware; D. G. Pierce, lumber; O. C. Warren, hotel and livery; G. D. Pierce, general store; Syrrillius Funderhide, harness dealer; D. Stiles, general store; F. M. Danby, meats; D. C. March, farm machinery and repairs; J. M. Pierce, blacksmith; Mrs. Kennerson, notions.

DEXTER IN 1911.

A business directory of the village of Dexter for the past few years shows up as follows: First State Bank of Dexter; O. J.

Dickens, general store; C. V. Miller, general store; W. E. Daily, hardware, furniture, etc., also dealer in farm implements; E. W. Dorr, postmaster and dealer in drugs; R. Lewis, meats; Solt & Jacobson, hardware; T. K. Berven, shoe shop; Ruth Howe, millinery; E. Karow, creamery; I. S. Emery, blacksmith; D. C. March, blacksmith; C. W. Howe, hotel; R. Burke, restaurant; J. E. Kirkwood, deep wells; Union Fibre Company, dealers in flax straw; C. L. Colman Lumber Company; Stevenson Elevator Company; Dexter Telephone Company; Congregational church; Seven Day Advent church; a four-room full graded school; G. J. Schottler, physician; Henry Weber, Jr., attorney.

BANKING HISTORY.

First State Bank of Dexter. For some time prior to the erection of the present bank building and the establishment of a permanent bank, G. W. King and also E. S. Hoppin had, in a measure, done some banking business. But it was not until the spring of 1902 that Medbery Brothers, Weber Brothers, W. H. Pierce and E. S. Hoppin, of this village, and Reed & Kline, of Welcome, Minnesota, formed an association for the purpose of establishing a permanent bank. When they had formulated their plans and the bank building had been partly erected, they were induced to sell out to parties from Wright county, Iowa, who completed the building as first planned and in the fall of the same year opened the doors for business as a private banking institution, under the firm name of F. C. Hartshorn & Co., with D. L. Mills as cashier.

This firm continued in business until January 1, 1907, when the whole, including the banking house, was purchased by the local parties who were the founders of it, and outside parties, among whom were Wright, Parhan, Torgrinson, Zabel and Goodsell of Grand Meadow and F. M. Conklin of Chester, Iowa, and the bank was incorporated under the name of First State Bank of Dexter.

In the early part of the year 1910, the stock held by outside parties was bought by men of this locality, and it is now owned and completely controlled by local parties.

The bank, under its present name, in 1907, started doing business with a deposit of about \$16,000, which has increased to and now exceeds the sum of \$90,000. Its officers are: Henry Weber, Jr., president; A. S. Rolison, first vice-president; G. J. Schottler, second vice-president; F. M. Conklin, cashier; Theo. Kramer, assistant cashier; and the above named, with H. M. Brue, T. K. Berven, W. Tweeten, R. Weber and J. Miller, are the nine directors of the bank.

INCORPORATION.

The village of Dexter was incorporated by an act of the legislature, February 28, 1878. It includes sections 13 and 14. The first meeting for the election of village officers was held in Gaskill's Hall on the 12th of March, 1878. The first officers were: Aleck Stewart, president of the board; councilmen, L. D. Jackson, L. M. Gaskill, G. W. Buck; recorder, C. H. Pearce; treasurer, D. M. Vermilyea; assessor, S. C. Pettit; justices of the peace, J. L. Gaskill and H. Dudfield; constable, I. Denver.

CHURCHES.

The first religious meetings in Dexter were held in 1874. Rev. T. F. Ladd, a Baptist divine from High Forest, was the pioneer preacher. A few services were held, some of them in the schoolhouse, some in Pearce's Hall. The outcome of these was a Sunday school, of which Israel Best was the superintendent.

In 1875, Rev. Cyrus Stone, Congregationalist, from Massachusetts, visited Dexter and preached in the schoolhouse. An interest was awakened, and Rev. L. H. Cabel, superintendent of the Home Missionary Society, came here and organized a church. The first members were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dudfield, Rev. Cyrus Stone, Mrs. Frank Dewey, John DeYoung, Mr. and Mrs. Israel Best, Mrs. Fowler, Walter Hitchman, William Cruikshank. Henry Dudfield and Israel Best were elected deacons, and Cyrus Stone was elected clerk. Rev. Mr. Stone became the first pastor. He was ordained that year at Grand Meadow. He was succeeded by Rev. R. B. Wright, who was followed by Rev. James Sikes. In 1877, a church edifice was erected at a cost of \$1,200, about one-half of which was raised in the east. After Rev. Sikes, the pulpit in turn was occupied by Rev. Smith, Cobb, Cowell, Brown, Duncan, Donalson, Winter, Jones, Lyons, Bain, and the present incumbent being Rev. Hughes. The present church officers are I. P. Chase, T. L. Woodford and G. H. McNeir, trustees; Mrs. S. Emery, clerk, and Mrs. Clara McNeir, treasurer.

The Methodist Episcopal class was organized by Rev. Mr. Stokes, of Brownsdale. Among its members were: Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Farrington, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. John Harris. R. C. Farrington was class leader and steward. Rev. Messrs. Barklow, Copp and Caple were among the early preachers.

The Seventh Day Adventists erected a church in 1896 and for a time had a regular pastor. Services are held in the church, in charge of the members or of visiting pastors.

In 1869 a union Sunday school was organized at the house of G. W. Bowles. The school was conducted by Mrs. Bowles and

Henry Dudfield. It received donations of papers and books from the east and from the Congregational church in Austin.

SERIOUS FIRES.

On the night of May 31, 1897, Dexter was visited by a fire which entirely destroyed the buildings on the west side of Main street. When the fire was discovered a high wind was blowing, and in spite of heroic efforts on the part of the citizens, all the buildings on the west side of the street were swept away, including the railroad station, lumber yard, water tank and coal sheds. The following losses were sustained: S. A. Sorenson, \$6,000; H. A. Benson, \$2,000; W. H. Pierce, \$4,000; G. J. Juelson, \$4,000; H. I. Hull, \$300; Henry Weber, Jr., \$1,500; P. Vandenoever, \$2,000; Sorenson & Pierce, \$1,200; Cargyll & Hyde, \$2,500; G. L. Coleman, \$2,000; George King, \$500; F. M. Danley, \$1,000; C., M. & St. Paul, \$3,000; S. Y. Hyde, \$1,200; B. S. Benner, \$300.

On January 27, 1907, Dexter suffered another heavy loss by fire, which may be estimated at about \$25,000. It was about 10 o'clock in the evening, after the business houses had been closed for the day, that fire broke out in the double-front building owned and occupied by the Medbery Bros. as a dry goods and grocery store. The upper story was used as a Masonic hall, and as an office of Dr. G. J. Schottler. Within a few hours the whole was completely destroyed by the fire. This structure has not been rebuilt. The loss sustained was reasonably well covered by insurance.

SOCIETIES.

Dexter Lodge, No. 253, A. F. & A. M., was constituted in the village April 9, 1903, with fourteen charter members. It now has thirty members, and holds its meeting in the hall of the Buck building. The lodge formerly occupied the Medbery Hall, which, in 1907, was destroyed by fire. Regular meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month.

The present officers of the lodge are: E. W. Dorr, W. M.; H. M. Brue, S. W.; D. A. Root, J. W.; F. M. Conklin, treasurer; J. H. Vandenoever, secretary; R. G. Longen, S. D.; W. J. Drake, J. D.; J. P. Chase, S. S.; W. Watson, J. S.; W. J. Root, tyler.

Dexter Camp, No. 3504, M. W. A., was organized in this village January 24, 1896, with twenty charter members. The lodge has at present sixty-six members in good standing and has for several years owned its own hall, which is a commodious one. Regular camp meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Its present officers are: V. C. W. L. Harrison; W. A., A. T. Root; E. B., D. A. Root; clerk, O. J. Dickens; escort, John Prickett; watchman, George Drake; sentry, Charles Kramer.

Dexter Telephone Company. A local telephone company of this vicinity was established in May, 1901. It was a stock company known as the Mower County Farmers' Telephone, in which each patron was required to own a share and provide his own instrument and help build the line. It proved to be a success in every way and soon was connected with other lines for long distance work. The first officers of the company were: B. F. King, president; O. J. Dickens, treasurer, and J. Rahilly, secretary. On the first day of January, 1909, the company was incorporated under the name of Dexter Telephone Company, with a capital stock of \$10,000, and the line now has 150 miles of wire in operation with about 250 phones in place. The village of Dexter is the headquarters for the company and there is scarcely a farm home within a radius of several miles of the village which cannot be reached by the line. The annual meetings are held in June, and the present officers are L. Larson, president; A. S. Rolfson, vice president; O. J. Dickens, treasurer, and R. Rahilly, secretary; these, together with N. Lee, C. Fairbanks, W. Daily, W. Watson, W. Phillips, W. Drake, and J. Martin, constitute the board of directors.

Dexter Commercial Club. One of the many associations of the village that should not be lost sight of is the Commercial Club of Dexter. Although not more than a year has passed since its formation, it has done a great deal for the business and financial interests of the village and in addition to this it has been instrumental in maintaining a fraternal feeling among the business men of the town. The club has a large membership for a village of this size and a great deal of interest is taken. Its present officers are G. J. Schottler, president; F. M. Conklin, treasurer, and E. W. Dorr, secretary.

DEXTER CEMETERY.

The village cemetery is well located one-half mile north of the business portion of the town, in the northwest quarter of section 13. It is on the main highway and consists of two acres of nice high ground, which slopes east and also west. It was platted in 1889 and laid out in seventy-two main or principal lots and 306 smaller or outside lots. The cemetery is under the control and management of the village council.

RENOVA.

Renova is located in section 9 and was started after the building of what is now the Chicago Great Western road in 1887. It

is chiefly a grain trading point and has an excellent elevator, a railroad station and a general store in which is located the post-office. Renova was platted March 30, 1900, by W. F. Johnson.

SUTTON.

Sutton was located in section 26 on the Chicago Great Western. It was started as a trading point after the building of the railroad in 1887. The elevator burned down and the station has been moved away.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

WINDOM TOWNSHIP.

Location, Advantages and Area—Early Settlement—First Events—Organization of the Township—Religious—Rose Creek Village—Location, Platting, Incorporation and Officers—Business in the Early Days—Churches—Edited by George Sutton and Ferdinand G. Ray.

Windom township embraces the territory comprised in congressional township 102 north, range 17 west of the fifth principal meridian. It is bounded on the north by Red Rock township, on the east by Marshall, on the south by Nevada and on the west by Austin. The surface of this township is quite level, and there are but few acres of waste land. Originally about three-fourths of the surface of the township was clear prairie land, while on a portion of the balance good timber was growing. The largest body of timber was located on sections 7, 8, 13, 24 and 25. The soil is a rich, dark loam, in some places mixed slightly with sand and in other places with clay. The soil is very productive and excellently adapted to the raising of cereals and grasses common to this latitude.

The township is drained by Rose creek and its tributaries and the tributaries of Dobbins creek. Rose creek enters the township from Marshall by way of section 1 and flows to section 12; from thence it retraces its course and passes back to Marshall township a trifle. On section 13 it again enters this township, passing across that section; then through the northwest corner of section 24 to 23; thence through 26; the northwest quarter of 35; thence across 34, 33, 32 and the northeast corner of 31 to section 30, from which it leaves this township to enter Austin township. The drainage from the northern part of the township is into Dobbins creek.

In early days, and in fact until about 1878, wheat was the

chief product, as much as thirty bushels to the acre being frequently threshed. The first wheat raised here was marketed at McGregor, Iowa, and Winona, and many of the settlers used to make the trip with ox teams. It was generally considered an eight to ten days' trip to McGregor, and six to eight to Winona; but in bad going it would take longer. In the summer season it was customary to take provisions along and camp on the way. During the winter they would put up at hotels which were stationed at different places along the road. Some of these taverns were built of logs and not very large, and were oftentimes crowded with guests, but like a stage coach, there was always room for one more. At the present day wheat is not as profitable as it used to be, and much less of it is sown. Barley, oats, corn, potatoes, timothy, flax and clover are raised in large quantities. The dairy and stock raising interests are now receiving considerable attention and many good horses and cattle are raised in this township.

Early Settlement.

The first settlement in Windom township was made in 1855 by Sylvester Davis, who came here in the spring of that year and camped on section 20. But at that time he heard of better prospects farther on, and he went west. In August of that year, however, he returned and settled on the southwest quarter of section 20, where he erected the first dwelling in the township. It was a frame house, which he afterwards enlarged by building an addition. This he opened as a tavern, it being on the road from the Little Cedar to Owatonna, a road much traveled in those days, and his house was frequently crowded with guests. Davis was a typical frontiersman, and was visibly inclined to be rough and uncouth. In 1857 he sold and returned to Iowa, where he lived a short time, then moved to Rice county, Minnesota, where he died a few years later. He sold his place in this township to Nelson Cook, a Congregational clergyman, and while he lived there the place was named "Saint's Rest," by which name some still know it. From Rev. Cook the chain of title to the place passed through Francis Bronson, Elias Branch, John Merrill, William V. Little, Henry Baker and then to Vernon M. Gregg, the present owner.

Elon C. Benton was the second settler in the township. He was a native of New York state; but came here from Iowa, where he had lived for a short time. In March, 1856, he claimed the south half of the southwest quarter of section 7, in Windom, and also the southeast of the southeast quarter of section 12, in Austin township. His mother accompanied him. He erected a log

house on section 7 and lived there until 1861, when he sold and moved to Nebraska, settling near Omaha. He lived there for a time then removed to Smith county, Kansas. In 1883 he removed to Oregon. He held various offices of trust in Windom, was justice of the peace in Nebraska and Kansas, and in the latter state held the office of judge of probate.

In March, 1856, William T. Mandeville, Alfred Richardson, Hugh Mills and Pliny Conkey came. They were all natives of the state of New York and had lived near West Union, Iowa, for a time. This party came with forty covered wagons. Mr. Mandeville claimed the southeast quarter of section 30; Conkey the southeast of 19; Mills the northwest of 29, and Richardson the north half of the southeast quarter of section 20. They all returned to Iowa except Mills, who remained to look after the claims. In May of that year they came back and with them came Horatio Marsh, George N. Conkey and Charles Zwick. Mandeville located upon his claim. Conkey was a single man and made his home with his brother George N. for two years, and then went to Iowa. About a year later he returned and in 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Infantry. He was captured at the battle of Guntown, Miss., and died in a rebel prison. Mr. Mills died in June, 1884, and his family at this writing still occupies the place. Richardson improved his land and lived there until 1870, when he moved to Austin, where he resided for a number of years. The place was sold to Walter Hines, whose family now occupies the place. George N. Conkey entered the northeast quarter of section 30. He is now dead. Marsh entered the south half of the southeast quarter of section 20. In 1878 he sold and moved to Austin. He is now dead. This place was sold to Patrick Hues, who sold to William Enright, the present owner.

During the same year (1856) the following arrived with their families: Chester Fuller and his son Walter, Obadiah Smith, Andrew Robertson, Aaron Draper, Mrs. Ann Smith and son Thomas, Ira W. Padden, Martin O'Malley, Michael Slaven, Patrick Mealy, Quincy A. Truesdell, William Cowan, Henry Fero, Peter McGrath and A. J. Clark.

The Fullers were natives of Connecticut, but came here from Wisconsin. They settled on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 20. The father, Chester Fuller, died three weeks later. This was the first death in the township. Walter made this his home until the time of his death. The family are all dead except Mrs. Rosetta Fuller, who lives in Rotunda, N. D. Obadiah Smith was a native of New Jersey. He came here from Iowa and settled on the north half of the northwest quarter of section 7. He is now dead. His wife lives in Minneapolis, and

his son, who lives in Austin, now owns the farm. A. Robertson was a native of Scotland. He settled on the northeast quarter of section 26. He improved a farm and lived there until 1880, when he closed out and removed to Stewart, Neb., where he is still living. Patrick Mealy, William Cowan and Martin O'Malley were natives of Ireland. Patrick Mealy settled on the southeast quarter of section 26, where he lived until after the railroad was built, when he sold out and removed to Racine county, Wisconsin, where he now lives. Martin O'Malley located on the northeast quarter of section 6, where he made his home until the time of his death. His death occurred while he was in Illinois and was caused by a runaway accident. Martin O'Malley's family are all dead except Mrs. William Meany, who lives in Windom, and Patrick O'Malley, a son, who is a railroad conductor in Kansas. William Cowan settled on the northeast quarter of section 5. Mrs. Smith settled on the southeast quarter of section 13, where she lived four years; then went to Mineral Point, Wis., where she died three months later. Her son Thomas B. settled on the northeast quarter of section 12. Ten years later he sold out and bought the place first settled upon by his mother. He now lives in Minneapolis and his son George lives on the place. Q. A. Truesdell settled on the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 10. He stopped there but a short time, when he sold out and moved to Austin, and for some years was engaged in various lines of business, but he finally removed to Minneapolis, where he died. Michael Slaven was a native of Ohio. He located on the southeast quarter of section 13, where he lived until 1874, when he sold out. He now lives in Austin. Henry Fero was born in the state of Wisconsin. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 6, where he lived two or three years, then sold out and removed to Iowa. Early in the war he enlisted, and, it is said, was killed in battle. Peter McGrath located on the southwest quarter of section 5, where he lived for several years. A. J. Clark was a native of New York state. The southwest quarter of section 17 was selected by him. He enlisted when the war broke out in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and died in the service at Helena, Ark. The family afterward moved West.

Ira W. Padden was a native of the state of New York, but came here from Canada early in 1856, and settled on the southeast quarter of section 6. During the war he served in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged with the regiment in 1865. He was cruelly murdered in the fall after his return. He was at a threshing in the neighborhood and was passing grain to the machine. It seems he passed it on to the table too fast to suit Patrick McIntee, the man who was feeding

the machine, and the fellow challenged him to fight, which he refused to do. The murderer then went to a house near by and borrowed a revolver, and returning again, challenged him to fight. Mr. Padden again refused, upon which the man fired upon him, and he died from the effect of the shot in a few moments. Aaron Draper claimed the northwest quarter of section 35. He was a blacksmith by trade, the first in the township. He set his forge up out of doors at first. Thomas Smith burned the charcoal for him and took his pay in work. He finally put up a log building for a shop, but never put on any roof. He had quite a large drove of cattle, but did not have sufficient food or shelter for them, and a number died during the cold winter of 1856-57. He never proved up on his claim, but left it and went away. John A. Thompson, a native of New York state, also came in 1856, and after entering land on the southeast quarter of section 7, he returned to New York state. In the spring of 1857 he came back and settled upon his land.

During the year 1857 the following were among the arrivals: Alonson Wright and son Alonzo, Harry, Roswell and Cook Slocum, William Furlong, Henry H. Vail, Stephen Sutton and son George, George W. Benton, J. A. Thompson, W. W. Benedict, Bucklin Wood, Andrew Emery, and George Emery. The Wrights were natives of New York state, but came here from Green county, Wisconsin. Alonson entered the northeast quarter of section 13, where he lived some years; then removed to Austin, where he died in January, 1878. Alonzo entered the northwest quarter of section 13. He is now dead. The Slocums were also natives of the state of New York, but had lived for a time in Illinois. They came late in the spring. After making claims, breaking some land and erecting shanties, they returned to Illinois and harvested their crops. In the fall they returned and settled on their claims. Harry's claim was the southeast quarter of section 10. Roswell settled on the northeast quarter of section 10. He improved a farm, which he occupied several years, then moved to Austin. Cook settled on the southeast quarter of section 9, where he lived for several years. He died in Austin. With the Slocums came H. Perkins, who took a claim in the northwest quarter of section 14. Messrs. Sutton and Furlong were both natives of Ireland. Furlong located on the northeast corner of section 8, where he made his home until the time of his death. The Suttons claimed the southwest quarter of section 26. The father died there December 24, 1859. His son entered the land in 1860 and still owns it. Stephen Sutton and his son, George, arrived at Winona, Minnesota, May 4, 1857. They went to Chatfield, where the land office was, by stage, part of the time carrying a rail to pry the stage from the mud of the slough, in

which it was frequently mired. They secured a plat of the township of Beaver, township 101, range 13, and were told at the land office that they would have to build a house and break half an acre of land before they could file on any claim. They therefore went to work, cut logs, built a house, rooted a little piece of ground and prepared to make their permanent home there. But when Stephen, the father, went to Chatfield to file on the land, he found that it had been entered and paid for the day before by one William Bigen. This discouraged him, and he wanted to go back to New York. His son, however, told him that there was more land in Minnesota, and consequently he and a man with whom they had been boarding, came to what is now Windom township, and took up a claim where the son George now lives.

George W. Benton claimed the southeast quarter of section 9. He died in Austin. His mother preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 18. H. H. Vail was a native of Vermont. He came here from Illinois and preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 2. J. A. Thompson was born in Chenango county, New York, in 1827. He came to Mower county in 1856 and took a preëmption right to the southeast quarter of section 7. Then he returned to New York, was married, and the next year came to Minnesota. He settled on his homestead in May, 1857, and lived on it for thirty years. Then he and his wife moved to Austin, where they now reside. W. W. Benedict preëmpted the southwest quarter of section 8, in the fall of 1857. He was born in New York in 1829. After living in Mower county a time he moved to Springfield, South Dakota, where he now resides. Bucklin Wood preëmpted the southwest quarter of section 8 in the spring of 1856. He moved from New York the following year, and afterward moved to Springfield, South Dakota, where he still lives. Andrew and George Emery came in 1857. The former preëmpted the east half of the northeast quarter of section 14, and the latter the east half of the southwest quarter of section 16.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage in the township was that of Jacob Lee to Rebecca Davis, who were married at the residence of the bride's parents, by D. B. Johnson, Jr., justice of the peace. They lived at Austin for a time then removed west. He enlisted in the army when the war broke out and was killed in battle. The first death in the township was that of Chester Fuller, who died in 1856.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Windom was organized May 11, 1858. At that time it was known as Brooklyn, and included the present towns of Windom and Marshall. In 1862 the name Brooklyn was changed to Canton, and the same year to Windom. York, now Marshall, was cut off in 1870. The minutes of the first meeting are given in the records as follows, furnished to this publication by A. W. Rankin, town clerk: "The following are the true minutes of an election held in accordance with the notice given by order of the chairman of the board of county commissioners, May 11, 1858. Names of persons voting at said election: Alfred Richardson, Elan C. Benton, Martin A. Churchill, Oliver Hickecock, Cook Slocum, William Cowan, Harry Slocum, Stacy Bell, George W. Benton, Walter Fuller, William T. Manderville, Patrick Mealy, A. J. Clark, Henry Tearow, William Furlong, Martin O'Malley, Alanson Wright, Peter McGrath, John A. Thompson, John Depue, Horatio Marsh, M. J. Slaven, Nelson Cook, P. S. Conkey, Jeremiah Perkins, Henry Roger, George N. Conkey, Andrew Robertson, Obadiah Smith, Thomas Smith, Hugh D. Mills, Roswell Slocum, E. E. Cross and Aaron Draper. The judges of election were Nelson Cook, Horatio Marsh and Thomas Smith. The meeting was held at the home of Nelson Cook. The following officers were elected: Supervisors, Alanson Wright (chairman), John A. Thompson, and A. J. Wright; town clerk, Nelson Cook; justices of the peace, Horatio Marsh and William Cowan; collector, Walter Fuller; constable, Harry Slocum; assessor, Roswell Slocum; road supervisor, E. C. Benton; overseer of the poor, Henry Tearow. On motion it is resolved that the town lay a tax of \$50 for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of the town for the ensuing year. Nelson Cook, clerk." The town was named in honor of Senator William W. Windom.

Among those prominent in township affairs in the early days may be mentioned: E. C. Benton, P. Mealy, G. N. Conkey, Stephen Sutton, A. Robertson, O. Smith, M. J. Slaven, A. H. Clark, J. H. Livingston, P. S. Conkey, H. Marsh, S. W. Rice, H. Erickson, A. J. French, A. Fairbanks, John Merrill, W. Bronson, Henry Burgor, H. H. Vale, Thomas Smith, William Furlong, Alonzo Wright, Thomas H. B. Vandergrift, M. B. Slocum, G. W. Richards, Ira H. Warner, J. A. Priest, John C. Hawkins, F. B. Kline, George Sutton, F. G. Ray, A. H. Williams, H. O. Sweningson, J. J. Furlong, A. M. Baldwin, Jens A. Jensen, John Cronau, D. McTavish, Ira Snyder, Thomas Malone and A. D. Fairbanks.

RELIGIOUS.

Early in the history of the town ministers of different denominations visited Windom and preached at private houses. Among the early preachers were: John Arnold, a United Brethren; Rev. Mapes, a Methodist; Nelson and Stephen Cook, Congregational, and Ash Marsh, Baptist.

Congregational. In 1857 Nelson Cook, a native of Vermont, and a Congregational preacher by profession, purchased the Davis farm and settled in this township. He was a graduate of Oberlin college. He soon afterwards organized a church there, which included members of different denominations who wished to identify themselves with some church. Among the members were: W. T. Mandeville, Alfred Richardson and wife, John Rose and wife, John Greggs and wife, Lyman St. John and wife, David Austin and Oliver Hitchcock. John Rose was elected deacon. Meetings were held at Mr. Cook's house, at the house of Lyman St. John, in Nevada township, and other private houses. The organization flourished under Mr. Cook's care for four years, when failing health compelled him to go east. He went, intending to return, but his health continued to fail, and he died after a lingering illness. After this the church disbanded and the members joined different societies.

Baptist. Those of the Baptist faith living in the eastern part of the town attended services at Austin until 1868, when Elder Wharton held a series of meetings at the schoolhouse in District No. 24. A number of conversions were made and a branch of the Austin church was organized, which met at the schoolhouse for worship, services being held once in two weeks. In 1872 the members in this neighborhood called for letters of dismissal in order to establish an independent church. The following named became members: Horatio Marsh, Cynthia A. Marsh, Walter Fuller, George Van Camp, Emeline Van Camp, Mrs. Silas Miner, Alfred, Belle and John Fairbanks, John Bennett and wife, Charles, Myron and Etta Miner, Josephine Burger, David Mollison and wife, Josephine M., Alena M., George W., Thomas E., and Joseph A. Mollison, George W. Shepley and wife, Thomas Edwards and wife, Hiram Eddie and wife, Mrs. Rosella Snyder and Arminda Ruland. Horatio Marsh and Alonzo Fairbanks were elected deacons, and George Van Camp clerk. The pulpit was supplied from Austin, and the class flourished three or four years, when some of the members moved away, others joined other churches and the meetings were discontinued. A Sunday school was organized in connection with this church. Horatio Marsh was the first and Mrs. A. Fairbanks the last superintendent.

United Brethren. Elder Arnold organized a United Brethren

class at the house of Alfred Richardson. The following were among the members: Alfred Richardson and wife, Isaac Peterman and wife, and Mrs. Ira W. Padden. Mr. Richardson was the first class leader. Meetings were held at different private houses. Among the various preachers were Elder M. L. Tibbetts, John Allaman, Daniel Reed and Elder Zimmerman. The class flourished but a short time.

ROSE CREEK VILLAGE.

Rose Creek is an incorporated village in the southeastern part of Windom township on the C., M. & St. Paul road. It is a thriving place, is incorporated, has a bank, a creamery, a public school, two elevators, and Congregational and Catholic churches. It has a full complement of the business houses usually found in such places, and two fraternities, The Modern Woodmen of the World and the Catholic Order of Foresters. The population is between two and three hundred.

Among the principal business activities of Rose Creek at the present time may be mentioned the following: General merchandise, C. R. Varco, Weinert & Jensen, E. C. Keefe & Co.; State Bank of Rose Creek, president, Mrs. S. Dean; vice president, John Cronan; cashier, W. H. Dean; assistant cashier, E. O. Johnson; William Crane & Co., lumber and coal; John Ulwelling, meat market and restaurant; C. A. Anderson, general hardware; Hart & Meadow, restaurant and pool room; John Cronan & Co., elevator, grain and seeds; John Cronan, dealer in furniture; G. W. Phillips, farm implements; Huntting Elevator Company, grain and coal; Merchants' hotel; John Landherr, blacksmith shop and feed mill; Henry Luz, blacksmith shop; F. G. Ray, postmaster.

The Rose Creek Coöperative Creamery Company was organized March 10, 1910, and started operations June 1. The first officers were: President, S. D. Thompson; vice president, H. P. Cronan; treasurer, Jens A. Jensen; secretary, W. H. Dean. The present officers are the same with the exception that E. C. Keefe is secretary. The directors are Alfred Ruland, W. D. Fink, W. P. Cress and John Bloom.

This village was platted by Selah Chamberlain in 1873. It is located on the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 26. The original plat as recorded April 3, 1874, contained four blocks. Since that time additions have been made. It is pleasantly located, and the village is in a flourishing and growing condition. The surrounding country which is tributary to this place, is an excellent farming and stock raising region, and therefore the village has a substantial trade.

Rose Creek had its real beginning in October, 1867, when trains began running on the C., M. & St. P. road. It was for some years a flag station. In 1878 the present depot building was erected. John Cronan was the first agent. His service terminated October 1, 1889. Since then the agents have been: W. Keefe, E. E. Satterlee, R. Whitelaw, John C. Olson; Henry Gosha, Charles O'Malley, John Malek and John O'Malley, who is serving at present.

Rose Creek was incorporated February 14, 1899. The first officers elected were: Mayor, E. C. Keefe; council, G. W. Phillips, R. L. Tanner, James Ballweber; clerk, A. C. Shotter; treasurer, James Skahan; assessor, Peter O'Malley; marshal, N. H. Garrison; justice of the peace, F. G. Ray; constable, A. R. Sutton. The present officers are: Mayor, Fred Gerhart; council, A. S. Wheelock, Charles Schwamm, John O'Malley; clerk, E. C. Keefe; treasurer, John Cronan; assessor, J. B. Steines; justices, H. P. Ulwelling and T. B. O'Halloran; marshal, George Schumadrer. The streets of Rose Creek are well lighted with oil lamps and one gasoline lamp. The building now used for a town hall was first built as a schoolhouse in 1874. It was purchased by the village for a hall in 1909. The pumping station was built in 1904. The water comes from a deep well and the city has ample fire protection.

BUSINESS IN THE EARLY DAYS.

The first move toward business development at Rose Creek was the erection of a small warehouse in 1869, by William Pitcher, from Austin. Yates & Lewis rented the warehouse and bought grain for a time. In 1870 M. B. Slocum commenced buying grain, with George Sutton as a silent partner. They were associated together two years, when they dissolved, and each went into the business separately. M. B. Slocum erected two warehouses and an elevator. In 1877 Bassett, Huntting & Co. erected a large elevator. They are now represented by Thomas O'Halloran. George Sutton closed out his business in 1898. John Cronan was an early grain buyer and the J. Cronan & Co. concern still conducts an elevator here.

John A. Priest was the first merchant at Rose Creek. He commenced business in January, 1873, in an old log building, located near the village plat. He kept a very small stock at first. In the summer of 1873 he erected a building on lot 10, block 2, and increased his stock of goods. He remained in trade here until June, 1878, when he sold to Daniel McTavish and George W. Williams. In 1879 Williams sold his interest to A. J. Odekirk, and two years later Stanley Warner bought out the firm. Six months later he sold to C. R. Varco, who is still in trade.

The second store in the village plat was opened by J. C. Taskerud in 1875, in a building which he erected on lot 9, block 1. Two years later he closed out and went to Dakota, where he died. The lot still belongs to the family. The first hotel in the village was opened in 1875 by I. M. Ray. His son, F. G., now uses the place as a residence. George N. Price was the first blacksmith. He opened a shop here in 1873 on lot 6, block 1. He ran it for a few months, then sold the shop to Frank Johnson, who was a wagon maker, and he carried on that trade for a few months. Peter Johnson was associated with him as blacksmith. After Frank Johnson sold out the shop was moved away and Peter Johnson built another small shop. In 1875 he sold to James Pierce. In 1880 Watt & Barnhart erected a shop 22x32 with 10-foot posts. They were here but a few weeks, then sold to James Pierce. In 1882 Peter Johnson returned and bought the shop. Peter Johnson sold to Mike Lux, who sold to R. L. Johnson. Johnson sold to William Collins, who sold to John Landherr, the present owner. John Cronan opened the third store in the village in 1877. He had erected a building on lot 4, of block 3. He remained in trade about a year, when he sold out to Corbitt Brothers, who closed out a few months later. In 1881 Charles Lacy opened a store in this building. He closed up in the spring of 1883. Daniel McTavish opened in May, 1883. Mr. McTavish is now dead. His store building is owned by Mrs. Mary Hines Garrison, and is used as a skimming station, for receiving and shipping cream. D. F. Blyton opened the first harness shop in the village in 1877. He closed after running a few months. He now runs a harness store in this village for Charles R. Varco. Olburg & Sweningsen opened the fourth store in 1877, in a building which they erected on lot 11, block 1, in the first addition. Two years later they sold to McTavish & Odekirk, who were in business at the time. The latter firm moved from their old place of business to the building purchased of Olburg & Sweningsen, and were in trade until 1882, when they sold out. As before related, Stanley Warner purchased the business and sold to C. R. Varco, who still occupies the building, which he has greatly improved.

Rose Creek Congregational Church.—On September 15, 1872, religious service was held at the log schoolhouse about one mile north of the village of Rose Creek. After the service the feasibility of Christians uniting under one covenant in a Congregational church was considered. On October 29, 1872, a meeting was held in the log schoolhouse for the purpose of organizing a church. Rev. R. Hall, the state superintendent of home missions; N. S. Frisby, of Guilford; A. P. Kirkland and Rev. A. Morse were present. November 9, 1872, a church meeting was held at

the house of W. C. Watt. The first officers of the church elected were: W. M. Corbitt, clerk; N. N. Thompson, trustee; W. C. Watt, trustee; W. M. Corbitt, trustee; W. M. Corbitt, treasurer; O. Wheelock, deacon. Names of the original members: Obadiah Wheelock, W. M. Corbitt, N. N. Thompson, Mrs. Celestia Wheelock, Mrs. N. N. Thompson, Mrs. W. C. Watt, Miss Cordelia Wheelock. Pastors: Rev. A. Morse, December 1, 1872, until November 1, 1879; Rev. L. H. Moses, November 1, 1879, until November 18, 1883; Rev. M. W. Chunn, from May 1, 1884, until November, 1884; Rev. J. S. Rounce, September, 1885, until September 28, 1890; Rev. W. C. Atcheson, November 23, 1890, until September, 1892; Rev. F. W. Harlow, September, 1892, until November, 1893; Rev. Frank J. Brown, November, 1893, until November 28, 1896; Rev. Carl Swain, May 23, 1897, until September 1, 1898; Rev. Duncan, December 18, 1898, until October 1, 1899; Rev. Paul Winter, September 6, 1900, until September 6, 1901; Rev. Benjamin Irons, October 6, 1901, until October 26, 1902; Rev. E. C. Lyons, February, 1903, until May 26, 1903; Rev. Currie, May 30, 1903, until September 30, 1903; Rev. J. B. Thompson. September 9, 1906, the present pastor.

The Methodist class of Rose Creek was organized March 21, 1877, from the remnant of the Slocum class and others coming in. Rev. Mr. Kerr was the first who held charge of this class. Services were discontinued many years ago. For about ten years the Methodists met every other Sunday in the Congregational church.

Rose Creek Church of Christ was organized January 22, 1875, at the Rose Creek schoolhouse by Elder W. J. Bursell. The following were the first members: D. S. B. Mollison, Mary B. Mollison, Andrew Robertson, George N. Conkey, Isaac M. Ray, Eva Smith, Thomas Mollison, John Merrill, Alena M. Mollison, Willard G. Thompson, Celinda Conkey, N. N. Thompson, Abby F. Thompson, L. F. Corbitt, Josephine Mollison, Timothy Bulson, Harriet Bulson, Mary Ruland, Joseph Ondrick, Ella L. Thompson, Armanda Ruland, Ella Merrill, Jane Robertson, Lucy Burgor, Harvey Burgor, Julius Thompson, William Miner, William Robertson, Sarah Robertson, Lydia Burgor, Sarah Burgor, Alfred Snyder, Pliny Conkey and Hulbert Thompson. The first officers elected were as follows: Clerk, W. M. Corbitt; elder, N. N. Thompson; deacons, John Merrill, Andrew Robertson, Eliza Conkey and Mary B. Mollison; treasurer, George N. Conkey. The election was held at the house of N. N. Thompson, on January 28, 1875. The society met for worship at the Rose Creek schoolhouse until 1878, when a church building was erected in the village. Elder Bursell was pastor for four years and was then succeeded by Elder F. A. Baker. At about the same time as the

church was organized a Union Sabbath school was instituted, which met regularly until the fall of 1883. After Elder Baker resigned Elder Stewart from Lake Mills, Iowa, supplied the pulpit. After a time he stopped coming. For a time the church was used as a lodge room by different societies until February, 1904, when it was burned. The town hall and pumping station now occupy the site.

Rose Creek Catholic Church. Services have been held in Rose Creek by various priests since the earliest days. The present church, a well-kept structure, was erected in 1889. The first three regular pastors were Fathers Keller, Gergan and Schneider. The present pastor is the Rev. Mathias Jostock.

First Day Adventists. This congregation flourished here for a while and attracted quite a few members.

Prairie View Cemetery. This cemetery was laid out in 1881 by John Merrill. It is situated on the northwest quarter of section 25, in Windom township. The first burial was that of Amos Hickok, April 1, 1882.

SOCIETIES.

Three fraternal societies are in a flourishing condition at this point. They are: The Catholic Order of Foresters, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The Rose Creek Catholic Order of Foresters was organized January 10, 1898, and the first officers were: C. R., A. C. Schotler; V. C. R., C. A. McBride; treasurer, Thomas Cronan; recorder, E. C. Keefe. The present officers are: C. R., George Landherr; V. C. R., Henry Lux; treasurer, E. C. Keefe; recorder, L. P. Albrecht.

The Rose Creek Modern Woodmen of America was organized May 15, 1896. The officers are: Council, C. A. Carlson; advisor, William Evanson; clerk, E. C. Keefe; banker, J. Hawkins.

The Rose Creek Ancient Order of United Workmen was organized February 25, 1895, and the first officers were: M. W., H. F. Goode; past master workman, C. A. McBride; foreman, H. P. Cronan; overseer, E. C. Crane; recorder, Thomas Cronan; financier, A. P. Rounce. The present officers are: Master workman, A. S. Wheelock; past master workman, Thomas Cronan; foreman, H. P. Cronan; overseer, A. W. Rankin; recorder, E. C. Keefe; financier, H. L. Jensen.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

LODI AND TAOPI.

Location and Area—Soil and Waters—Early Settlement—First Events—Organization—Immense Farm—Village of Taopi—Taopi in 1875—Taopi in 1884—Modern Taopi.

This township is situated in the southeastern part of the county and comprises all of congressional township 101, range 15. It is a beautiful rolling prairie, watered only in the northeastern part by the Little Iowa river and its tributaries. The main stream has its source on section 9 and runs in a southeastern course, cutting off the northeast corner of section 16, and then runs nearly east, touching sections 10, 15, 11 and 14. It then passes across the northeast of section 14, in a southeasterly direction, passing through section 13 and cutting the corner of section 24, when it leaves the township. A branch of this stream rises in a small lake on the northwest corner of section 1, thence passing southeast, making confluence with the main stream on section 13. The soil in the western part of the township is a dark, black loam and in the eastern part it is a black loam with a light clay subsoil. The soil is very deep and productive, growing all kinds of grains, grasses and roots. There is but a small amount of timber of native growth within the township, and this is along the banks of the Little Iowa river, on sections 14, 13 and 24.

Lodi is bounded on the north by Clayton township, on the east by LeRoy township, on the south by Mitchell county, in Iowa, and on the west by Adams township. On section 5 of this township, which is in township 101, range 15 west, there exists the highest point in Mower county. That particular location is four miles north of the head waters of the Wapsapinnican river, three miles southeast of the head waters of the east branch of the Little Cedar river; two miles from the head waters of the Little Iowa river; four miles from the head waters of Deer creek; and five miles from the head of Rose creek, which enters the Cedar river below Austin.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first act toward effecting a settlement in Lodi township was brought about by Almond Fryer, in 1855. His brother accompanied him to the county. He came from New York and settled on the banks of the Upper Iowa, on section 14, where he

erected the first cabin in the township; it was constructed of poles and covered with wild hay and prairie sod. He remained until the time of his death.

A. and R. Billings settled on section 15, in 1863, and erected the second house in the township. It was constructed of logs that were hewn square, and it was always known as the "block house," and was for years a stopping place for emigrants. Eliacum Morse came at about the same time as the Billings. Jackson Tabor settled on section 14 some time during 1863. In 1868 he sold to Thomas Kough, an Englishman. In 1869 came O. Hutchins, W. P. Davis and L. Wierd. Wierd settled on the southwest quarter of section 24. Hutchins located on section 10, remained till 1882, when he sold and removed to Dakota. During 1870 the following came in for settlement: James Brown, Knute Iverson, Iver Hendrickson and Nels Nelson. John Burns came in 1875 and settled on the northeast quarter of section 34. Iverson and Hendrickson bought the south half of section 26. Nels Nelson bought the north half of the southwest quarter of section 27.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first settler within the township was Almond Fryer, who came in 1855. The first child born in the township was Almond Morse, born July, 1859. The first marriage was that of Miss Carrie E. Billings and W. H. Culton, August 17, 1868. The first Sunday school was held in 1873, organized by M. H. Triggs, who also preached the first sermon.

ORGANIZATION.

The survey name of the township was Lodi, but when it was organized in February, 1874, at schoolhouse No. 67, it was named Belleview, as the station established by the railroad company was originally called. The name Lodi was soon resumed. At the first meeting for organization J. M. Paul was chosen moderator, Thomas Kough clerk, R. Billings, J. B. Godard and Thomas O'Harra judges of election. The first officers elected were: R. Billings, chairman, J. B. Goddard, Knute Iverson, supervisors; Thomas Kough, clerk; A. Billings, treasurer; Thomas O'Harra and J. M. Paul, justices of the peace; P. P. Cavanaugh and Henry Thompson, constables. At the first annual meeting held in March, 1874, the name was changed to Lodi, at the suggestion of Thomas Kough.

IMMENSE FARM.

The Taopi Farming Company was the title of a corporation, incorporated in the year 1875, which owned and occupied 5,200 acres of the choicest land in the state, 4,000 acres of which were under cultivation, 2,000 acres of the cultivated lands in tame grass and the balance in corn and small grain. The village of Taopi was located on the farm. The corporation afterward went out of business and the great farm has gradually been divided into smaller tracts. A few years ago G. W. Pitts purchased 2,500 acres of this farm, which he is gradually selling in quarter section farms.

VILLAGE OF TAOPI.

This place is located on section 9. It derived its singular name from the celebrated Indian chief, "Taopi," who befriended the whites at the time of the New Ulm massacre. It was platted in 1875 by a corporation, made up chiefly of the Taopi Farming Company, in the name of John W. Wood. They purchased forty-eight acres of land on the south half of section 9 and platted the same into lots and commenced building.

EARLY BUSINESS.

The first move toward business at this point was effected in the fall of 1875 by the Mill company, composed of H. Snider, Charles Whipple and the Taopi Farming Company, who erected a fine large steam flouring mill, which was propelled by a 125-horsepower engine. It contained eight run of stone and for a time did a large business; but through various circumstances the mill was removed to Jackson, Minn. The same season this mill was built the following business houses and firms were established: J. Martz built a two-story frame furniture store, which was used for that purpose until the mill was removed. Oscar Olburg built a frame business house and opened a stock of general merchandise. Christian Alleman put in a stock of drugs and in 1882 sold an interest to Charles H. Webber. Charles Smith & Son started a hardware store. L. M. Tubbs opened an exclusive grocery store, continued five or six years. M. Krebsbach & Co. built a frame business house and put in a general store, which in 1877 they sold to George W. Corbitt. A boarding house was opened by L. D. Sergeant the fall the village was commenced. A little later in the season M. O'Brien built the two-story frame hotel known as the "Taopi House." A. B. Woodard also built a commodious hotel, which a year later was sold to William Hahn. W. B. Mitson & Bro. started a harness shop in the fall of 1875. A postoffice was established at Taopi

in 1875. W. P. Brainerd was postmaster. The grain business of the place was large. At the time the steam mill was built the same company who erected that also built, in connection with the mill, an elevator having a capacity of 45,000 bushels. The next elevator was built by George W. Corbitt in 1879. He had operated in grain prior to this date, in a small warehouse, which was built in 1877. W. P. Brainerd built a warehouse in 1876 and a year later sold to Bassett & Huntington, and they, in 1880, erected an elevator holding 15,000 bushels. The first practicing physician of the village was Dr. William Edwards, who located in 1876. He only remained a year or two and moved to Wisconsin and from there to Dakota. He was succeeded by Dr. O. M. Landon, who remained until the spring of 1883. A Presbyterian church was organized by Elder E. W. Raymond, of LeRoy, soon after the village was started. He preached for this society once in two weeks until 1884, when they had no services.

TAOPI IN 1875.

In October, 1875, the then new town of Taopi was in a flourishing condition. A new mill and elevator had been completed by the Taopi Mills Company, C. D. Harn, president; George E. Skinner, John W. Wood and C. H. Whipple, directors. Messrs. Skinner and Wood owned near by a farm of 3,640 acres, the largest in the county. New buildings were going up in every direction. L. D. Sargeant had erected a general store building, and was boarding the men working in the mill. J. Martz was building a furniture store. C. Alleman had opened a drug store. Smith & Co. had under way a building for a hardware and farm machinery store. Irgens, Knutson and Olberg were about to open a general store. Jacobson & Co. had opened a drug store. David McKenzie was the village painter. Albert Amsen was doing a flourishing blacksmith business. Joseph Frasier was a mason. M. O'Brien was building a hotel and blacksmith shop. N. S. Brown was building a restaurant. A temporary station had been erected and U. P. Brainerd was the agent.

TAOPI IN 1884.

The business of the village was spasmodic. While the flouring mill was in operation, and before the "boom" had passed over, it was indeed a busy mart, but in 1884 it was not as good. In the month of August, 1884, the following comprised the business of the place: General stores, George W. Corbitt, and Bradbury & Strong; hardware, Charles Smith & Son; drugs, Alleman & Webber; harness shop, W. B. Mitson; shoe shop, P. Peterson; blacksmiths, George Campbell and P. Midock; postoffice, kept by

C. Alleman; grain buyers, George W. Corbitt, Taopi Farming Company, and Bassett & Huntington.

MODERN TAOPI.

Taopi has a population of 140 persons at the present time. At this point are located a bank, a hotel, two elevators, a church, a city hall, a public school, three general stores and various business houses. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Chicago Great Western lines cross at this point.

The village was incorporated in 1875. The present incorporation dates from 1909. The present officers are: President, W. F. Jorden; recorder, N. L. Weigen; James Gager, A. Waldron. The fifth place on the board is vacant. A village hall was built in 1907. The village school, with two rooms, was erected the same year. The members of the school board are: Clerk, N. L. Weigen; treasurer, G. S. Pitts; trustee, Mrs. W. F. Jordan. The postoffice was rebuilt a year ago. In 1907 when so many buildings went up, the village experienced a boom. The Taopi Co-operative Creamery and Mercantile Company was also organized that year and an excellent creamery erected. The creamery closed some time ago, but has now been leased to the Freeborn County Creamery Company.

CHAPTER XXXV.

WALTHAM TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—Organization—Religious—First Events—Old Waltham House—Cemetery—Old Waltham Village—New Waltham Village—Modern Waltham—Business Interests—Church—School and Creamery—Edited by Lorenzo S. Chapman.

This is one of the five townships in the northern tier of Mower county and comprises congressional township 104, range 17. It is bounded on the north by Dodge county, on the east by Sargeant township, on the south by Red Rock township, and on the west by Udolpho township. The north branch of Roberts creek rises in section 24, and runs in a southwesterly direction, and enters Red Rock township from section 32. A small stream rises in section 19, flows nearly south and enters Udolpho from section 31. There is some timber found along Roberts creek, in

the south part of the township. The township is mostly composed of a nice rolling prairie of a productive, dark loam, which is as well suited for agriculture as any part of Mower county.

The name of Waltham was given at the suggestion of Charles F. Hardy, a native of Waltham, Massachusetts, who lived mostly in the town of Red Rock, but a short time at an early date in Waltham, and who later was county commissioner, justice of the peace and judge of probate in Mower county.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settler in Waltham township was Nels Johnson, a Norwegian, in the summer of 1855. His claim was the south half of the southwest quarter of section 22. He built a log house, 16x16, which was built on the north bank of Roberts creek. It had a board roof, the lumber of which was sawed at the Brownsdale saw mill. Mr. Johnson deeded his land and remained in the township until the spring of 1863, when he sold to George Johnson, and went to Udolpho township, and from there to the mountains. George Johnson was from Marquette county, Wisconsin; was formerly from Leicestershire, England. He lived in the township until his death in 1872. Barney Develin, an Irishman, settled in section 28, in the summer of 1856. He lived in the town but a few years when he went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A Mr. Bemis, a shoemaker, settled in section 34 in 1856. He sold out to Eri Colby. Charles F. Hardy was an early settler of the township, remaining only a short time, when he moved to Red Rock, from whence he came.

Sylvester A. Dennis came in 1857, located in Red Rock township, and in 1865 settled on section 19, Waltham township. Purdy Launsbury came in 1864 and located in section 22. Moses Boliou came to Brownsdale in 1864 and to section 9, Waltham, in 1865. In 1865 Alfred Launsbury settled on section 22. E. P. D. Kimble came to Mower county in 1866 and settled on section 5, in Waltham township. B. T. Walker came in 1866 and settled on section 30. Isaac Dennis came in 1869 and settled on his father's homestead. Charles Gage came in 1871 and purchased a farm in section 23. George Townsend came in 1875 and settled in section 33. Others prominent in township affairs in the early days were John Hoy, Eri Colby, W. Hall, J. J. Hunt, A. McGowan, C. E. Nichols, F. J. Hill, A. Colby, J. Muncy, G. R. Church, George W. Hunt, C. G. Clark. John C. Mason, of Worcester, Mass., acquired from the land warrant speculators more than a quarter of the township, principally in the northeast part of the town. Early in the spring of 1865 his agent, A. J. Burbank, came, plotted a village near the west line of section 15, erected a three-

story hotel, surveyed the whole tract into forties and sold off the land rapidly. The nearest boarding place was Purdy Launsbury's, till the hotel was finished. A plenty of help was engaged for hauling lumber and surveying. In the course of a day, two or three would come across a quarter section or eighty that pleased them, buy it, and their places in the surveying party be taken by other land lookers. Those who came in at this time and have since been prominent in town affairs were Moses Boliou, A. J. Hunt, Captain George and Henry Edwards.

Killed by Lightning. While fighting prairie fire on the night of October 8, 1871, Ira P. Launsbury, a son of Purdy Launsbury, was struck by lightning and killed, his dead body being found on the prairie the next morning. It is said that it rained very hard. The most singular thing about it was that only one very loud clap of thunder was heard, that which killed Mr. Launsbury.

ORGANIZATION.

The township of Walton was organized in June, 1866. The first election was held on June 4 at the house of A. J. Burbank, known as the "Waltham Hotel." The call for a meeting was signed by Alanson Beach, Charles F. Hardy, William E. Hardy, county commissioners. At this meeting H. L. Collins was chairman, A. J. Burbank, clerk, and J. W. George, Henry Edwards and John Steen were elected judges. There were sixteen votes cast and the following officers elected, viz.: Supervisors, H. L. Collins (chairman), H. Edwards, A. Launsbury; clerk, J. W. George; treasurer, Eri Colby; assessor, Moses Boliou; justices, P. Launsbury, H. L. Collins; constable, John Steen.

RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services in the township were held in the hall of the Waltham House, in January, 1866, by Rev. George Stokes, of Udolpho township. He held services once in two weeks.

Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Church, U. A. C. The history of this congregation dates back as far as 1874. Several German Lutheran families, who for a while had come together privately to worship in this year, called upon Rev. E. Johl, of Havana, Dodge county, Minnesota, to minister unto them the word and the sacraments. Public services were at first held in private houses. When in 1877 several other families following the dictates of their conscience separated from a congregation of the Buffalo Synod joined them and organization became desirable and was effected August 25, 1877, in the presence of Rev. E. Johl

and the following members: Conrad Fett, Johann Boelk, G. Faber, Julius Froreich, William Meyer, H. Pesch, August Jaeger, Albert Pesch, August Fraederick, Carl Wresch, F. Boelk, H. Kiekhoefer. In 1879 Rev. E. Rupprecht, of the Lutheran church at Pleasant Valley, took charge of pastoral affairs. In this year the congregation also joined the then Northwest District of the Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states, and erected its first house of worship, a frame structure, 20x30 feet, situated on a two-acre lot in the northwest quarter of section 19, which site at present is used solely as a cemetery. The building was dedicated in July, 1879. Rev. E. Rupprecht taking another charge, Rev. W. V. Schenk, of Rochester, Minn., served the congregation for a while, when charge was transferred upon Rev. E. Buerger, of Hart, Winona county. In 1882 Rev. A. Dubberstein, of Wykoff, took the charge and served until July, 1884. A parsonage being erected, Rev. J. C. H. Martin, of Cook county, Illinois, was called as settled pastor. This year also marks the beginning of Trinity Parochial school; until then children had been sent to Havana and Pleasant Valley congregations for religious instruction and confirmation. Rev. Martin accepting the charge at Pleasant Valley, Rev. F. Boesch was called and arrived in October, 1889, and served until spring of 1893. Rev. Herman Meyer, of South Dakota, was then called. In spite of much strife within and without, the congregation steadily gained in membership and the erection of a new church became a necessity. Not being able to enlarge the then site by purchase or other legitimate means, the congregation accepted favorably the offer of Herman Meyer, namely, a four-acre lot on the northwest quarter of section 29 as a donation. Uncertainty regarding the incorporation act and other unforeseen events arising, the erection of the church was postponed until 1895. In the spring of that year the cornerstone of the present church building was laid on the new site. The building is a frame structure, 36x60 feet, with 12x18 altar niche and 105-foot tower, in which is hung a 1,500-pound bell of real bell metal. The whole cost with interior furnishings was approximately \$3,500. William Dulitz was the bidder. The dedication was October 13, 1895. In 1897 the old church was removed to the new site to be used as a schoolhouse. A new modern parsonage was erected in 1898. July 15, 1900, Rev. H. Meyer resigned to take a charge in St. Paul, Minn. Rev. C. A. Affeldt, of Litchfield, Neb., was called and installed October 6. In 1905 extensive interior improvements at a cost of \$1,000 were made by putting in steel ceiling and sidewalls. January 1, 1911, the congregation numbered 347 souls, sixty voting members and 225 communicants. Present officials: C. A. Affeldt, pastor; Herman Beneke, J. N. Wuertz, elders; August H. Wollenburg, treas-

urer; George Miller, secretary; Herman Meyer, F. Naatz, H. Damerow, trustees.—Written by **Rev. C. A. Affeldt.**

St. Michael's German Lutheran Church. This congregation has enjoyed a long period of both material and spiritual prosperity. The congregation had its real beginning when Michael Matter, a native of Germany, came from Waukesha county, in May, 1869, and settled in Waltham township. Being of a religious nature, he greatly desired the spiritual comfort of religious services, and accordingly invited the Rev. Mr. Wier, from Lake Elmo, Washington county, Minnesota, to preach in his house from time to time. On June, 23, 1873, the church was formally incorporated, this being the first religious organization in the township. On the formation of the congregation Michael Matter gave sixty acres of land, reserving the use of same for five years, after which the tract became the property of the congregation. This land was located in the north half of the southwest quarter of section 20. On it a church was erected gratuitously by the members of the church in the summer of 1874. The Rev. J. J. Meissner came as first pastor in 1876 and served until 1880, when Rev. J. Haack became his successor until the fall of 1884. In December, 1884, an event took place which had an important bearing on the future of the church and community. This event was the arrival of the Rev. Frederick C. Milius as pastor. Rev. Milius is still in charge of the congregation. In 1890 under his direction a new church was built, a beautiful structure, both useful and ornamental. Later a comfortable parish house was erected. In 1899 was built a parochial school. Before this the old church served as such. This school is one of the finest in the county. The usual branches of learning are ably taught here and in addition to this the children receive instruction in German, religion and right living. All of these various lines of endeavor are in charge of Rev. Milius, who is nobly upheld by an intelligent, progressive and devout congregation.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first couple said to have been married in Waltham township was James Perry and Arvilla Brown, of Red Rock township. The ceremony was performed by H. L. Collins, a justice of the peace. The notable event took place in the Waltham House in November, 1869. The first white child born in Waltham township was John, a son of Nels Johnson, the first settler in the township. He was born in about 1854. The first death was Elizabeth H., a daughter of George and Dorothy Johnson. She died October 1, 1867.

OLD WALTHAM VILLAGE.

The village of Waltham was platted by J. C. Mason, of Massachusetts, who owned large tracts of land in the township. He started a colony in 1864 and 1865, and through his representations induced several families from Massachusetts to settle in the township. The townsite was located in the northwest quarter of section 15. It was laid out in lots of an acre, as an inducement to settlers. Any one who would build a house was given one acre on which to build. This village has long since passed out of existence.

OLD WALTHAM HOUSE.

John C. Mason built a commodious hotel, which was called the "Waltham House." The building was frame and cost \$4,800. It was erected under the management of Col. A. J. Burbank, from Illinois. He was in the employ of Mr. Mason, as well as landlord, and, it is said, spent his money, put on style and lived in fine shape. The Waltham postoffice was first kept in this building, with the colonel as postmaster. In the hall of this building were held the first religious services in the township. The first marriage ceremony was also performed here. The hall was also noted for its dances. The hotel did a big business until the completion of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, when the travel changed, when the hotel was closed as a public house, after being run as such for only four years. For several years it was used for renters and transient people in the neighborhood, until the fall of 1883, when the building was sold to Moses Boliou, who had it torn down and removed.

WALTHAM CEMETERY.

Waltham cemetery was organized under the laws of the state December 17, 1867. It is located on the southwest corner of section 22 and the northwest corner of section 27, and contains one acre. The ground was purchased by the town and presented to the association for cemetery purposes.

WALTHAM VILLAGE.

Waltham village was started on section 9 in 1885, when the road now known as the Chicago Great Western came through. The land upon which the village is located was originally a part of the farm of Moses Bolion. In October, 1885, the village was in a thriving condition. The railroad had put in several side tracks and had erected a station and a coal house. There was a lumber yard here and Turner & Bellamy and Parsons & Co.

each had a grain warehouse. On the east side of the principal street was a row of new buildings. S. A. Dodge had a blacksmith shop; G. L. Peck opened a hardware store; John Steen and John Stephin each had general stores. There was also a saloon. The public school stood a few rods east of these buildings. The village was platted September 8, 1885, in section 9, township 101, range 17, by the Minnesota Loan & Debenture Company, C. J. C. Ball, president; Robert C. Wright, secretary.

MODERN WALTHAM.

(By L. S. Chapman.)

Waltham is one of the prosperous and thriving villages of Mower county. It is surrounded by as good farming land as any in the county. A large amount of grain and stock is marketed annually, and farmers are well-to-do and prosperous. Land sells as high as \$100 an acre and will go much higher in the near future.

The present village was started in 1885, when the railroad came through, and the early merchants were: M. Boliou, lumber and coal; J. A. Stephan, general merchant and postmaster; John Steen, general merchant; G. L. Peck, hardware; George Ziemer, furniture; S. A. Dodge, blacksmith.

M. Boliou sold to George Ziemer, who in turn sold to J. C. Brainard & Co., they to the Northwest Lumber Company, and they to the present owners, Hayes-Lucas Lumber & Coal Company, who are doing a thriving business at the present time. C. E. Kingsley is manager.

G. L. Peck, the hardware merchant, was succeeded by George H. Boliou, and George H. Boliou by C. C. Erickson, who had purchased the John Steen general store and now uses both places for hardware and machinery.

George Ziemer still continues furniture and undertaking, drugs, etc. John Steen, having sold to C. C. Erickson, conducted a store in Blooming Prairie a few years and later retired to his large farm just east of Blooming Prairie.

S. A. Dodge was succeeded as blacksmith by M. E. Wentworth, of Mantorville, who continued in business until March, 1898, when he sold to F. J. Hill and returned to Mantorville, where he now resides. P. Raupach put in a large blacksmith shop about that time also. Mr. Hill continued in the business a few years, after which his shop was burned and not rebuilt. Mr. Raupach had his business until early in 1910, when E. Peterson, of Austin, put in a large shop. Mr. Raupach continued in

business until the fall of 1910, when he burned out and went to Anoka, where he now resides.

Waltham has prospered until now. It has two large general stores; one physician; one bank; one shoe shop; one livery; one creamery; stock buyer; one carpenter shop; one hardware and machinery store; one furniture, undertaking and drug store; one lumber and coal yard; two elevators; a flour mill with a capacity of seventy-five barrels daily; two saloons; farm machinery dealer; blacksmithery; meat market and paint shop. It also has a Methodist Episcopal church. The entire mileage is supplied with cement sidewalks.

Schools. In 1900 the school building just east of town was taken down, a two-room building was erected on the northeast corner of the village and a semi-graded school established with two teachers in charge. It is considered one of the best schools in the state, having won more prizes than any one school in the state and county contests of its class. The present officers are: J. A. Stephan, director; G. R. Nichols, clerk; L. S. Chapman, treasurer. Miss F. Buck is principal and Miss G. Glover is in charge of the primary department.

Physicians. In June, 1903, Dr. F. W. Schultz, a young physician, a graduate of our state university and of Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, Md., established an office on Main street and for five years had a large and prosperous practice. In December, 1909, he left for Evelith, Minn., for the winter and the next spring went to Germany for a year and is now stationed at Minneapolis. He was succeeded by Dr. H. R. Baker, of Evelith, Minn., who is equally well educated and successful physician at the present time, being a graduate of the Minnesota University and a Chicago medical school and for several years hospital physician in northern Minnesota.

Waltham Creamery. In the year 1885 a cheese factory was established under the co-operation plan, with A. L. Gardner as cheese maker. This factory flourished for four years and was then changed to a creamery under the same management, having the distinction of being second largest in the state at that time, its territory extending to Brownsdale on the south, Blooming Prairie on the west, Dodge county on the north and Sargent on the east. Present management: H. L. Anderson, president; George Ziemer, secretary; C. Faber, treasurer. The creamery is doing a fine business.

Methodist Church. About the year 1892 the Methodist conference erected a church here and on dedication day the people raised by subscription enough money to put the church clear of debt, several donating \$100 each. While the membership is small,

they have always had services regularly. The present pastor is Rev. E. H. Bedford, who is a very able man.

Mayville is a little station on the Chicago Great Western road. It has a cheese company and a nearby Lutheran church. A postoffice is also located at this point.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

RACINE TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—Organization—Religious—Hamilton Village—Racine Village—Edited by A. F. Stiles.

Racine is the northeast corner town of Mower county. It is bounded on the north by Olmsted county, east by Fillmore county, south by Frankford township, and west by Pleasant Valley. The soil is a rich, dark loam, underlaid with a clay subsoil. The surface is rolling, and the scenery diversified by occasional natural groves.

Bear Creek cuts across the southeast corner of the town. There are other streams in the town that arise from the beautiful springs, which are numerous.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

It seems that the first settlement within the present limits of Mower county, was made in what is now Racine township, by Jacob McQuillan. The story of the settlement of the McQuillans in 1852 is told elsewhere. In April, 1853, Thomas Cory, a native of Massachusetts, settled on the McQuillan place, and there entertained travelers two years, after which he settled in Fillmore county. He is now dead. His son Henry, former sheriff, still lives in the state. Adam Zedecker, a son-in-law of McQuillan, came with him. He first made a claim in Fillmore county, but afterward traded places with McQuillan. In 1855 he sold to William Campfield, and returned to Fillmore county. Campfield was a native of Pennsylvania. He lived here about six years, then went to Kansas, later to Iowa. It is said that G. I. Covell came in 1854 also. He settled on the northwest quarter of section 8. In 1855 he went to Frankford, then the county seat, and paid the first personal tax in Mower county. Joseph Robb, Zedekiah Tomlinson, and J. D. Gregory, all natives of Pennsylvania, came here April 15, 1855. Robb and Gregory both made claims,

which they sold soon after to C. J. Felch, and moved to Fillmore county. Robert Campfield came that year, and stayed until 1873, when he removed to Kansas, and settled in Ellsworth county. Others that came in 1855 were Benjamin Campfield, John R. Campfield, and C. J. Felch. Benjamin Campfield was a native of Pennsylvania. He preëmpted land in both Fillmore and Mower counties. He lived at Hamilton a few years. He is dead. John R. Campfield, also a native of Pennsylvania, first settled in Fillmore county. In 1858 he moved to section 25 of Racine township. Felch was a native of York state. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 1.

In 1856 the following named came: William Harper, John W. Harper, Lewis Skyhawk, William Trend, Loren Dutton, Jonathan Stewart, Zara Frisbee. John W. Harper was a native of York state. He settled on section 27, where he lived some years, then sold and moved to section 33. He is now dead. William Harper preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 34. In October, 1858, he sold and moved to Frankford and settled on the northeast quarter of section 12 of that township. Skyhawk settled on section 27, where he died in 1866. The Duttons were natives of Pennsylvania and came in the spring of the year. Loren preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 7. The following spring William preëmpted forty acres in section 7. Stewart was a native of York state. He preëmpted the southwest of section 27. Frisbee settled on section 19. During the war of the rebellion he answered his country's call. He was taken prisoner and died in Andersonville prison.

In 1857, William Chreviston, John Burton, William Dutton, L. G. Odeil and John R. Vail came. The former settled in section 28. In 1865, he sold and moved to Hamilton. Odell remained a resident of the town about ten years, when he removed to Fillmore county. Vail was a native of Canada; he settled in section 17.

Among others who might be mentioned as early settlers are: H. S. Bailey, John Martin, T. J. Lake, J. R. Dayton, Eli Leonard, O. B. Morse, E. Kenyon, W. E. Harris, George L. Grannis, Mathew Russell, Roswell E. Stewart, George D. Knox, John Schroeder, Frank Pew and William Vannatta.

ORGANIZATION.

This township was organized in 1858. It comprises congressional township 104 north, range 14 west, with the exception of the northern tier of sections. The northern tier of sections of township 103, range 14, are included in this township, making it a town of thirty-six sections. The first meeting for the election of

officers was held at the Methodist church at Hamilton, May 11, 1858. Charles J. Felch was elected moderator; H. S. Bailey, John Martin and C. J. Felch, judges of election; Thomas I. Lake and J. R. Dayton, clerks of election. The officers elected for the year ensuing were: Supervisors, C. J. Felch (chairman), Eli Leonard and William Campfield; town clerk, O. B. Morse; assessor, Jonathan Stewart; treasurer, John Martin; justices of the peace, H. S. Bailey and Loren Dutton; overseer of poor, E. Kenyon.

RELIGIOUS.

Racine Center Methodist Episcopal Church. This denomination erected a church in 1874. The trustees were T. P. Lyman, D. Eastman, R. E. Stewart, E. Stagg, James F. Carson. The contract for building was awarded to R. E. Stewart. The church was dedicated June 6, 1874, Rev. R. Forbes, of Kasson, officiating. The class was organized the year previous, and formerly met for worship in the school house at Racine Centre. The following named were early pastors: Rev. A. Folansbee, under whose pastorate the church was built; Rev. Charles Matthews, W. H. Barkelow, T. R. Hall, E. W. Young, Noah Lathrop.

The Evangelical Association. This is the name under which the German Church Society was organized about 1866. It was incorporated under the above name about 1873. In 1878 a substantial church edifice was erected in the northeast corner of section 33.

Free Will Baptist Church. There was a Free Will Baptist church organized at Hamilton in 1858, with eight members. Jonathan Stewart was the first deacon; Elder Reeves, from Pleasant Grove, Olmsted county, was the first pastor. Meetings were held once in two weeks, and well kept up with more or less regularity, until 1882.

NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT.

(By F. H. Reed.)

The population of Racine township is nearly one-third Norwegian. In 1854 a party of about nine families came from Dane county, Wisconsin, and settled on sections 4, 5 and 6, township 103, and sections 32 and 33, township 104, this portion of the town being covered with natural grove timber and lying adjacent to Bear creek. Among those who came in this company were Nelse Severson, Ole Simonson Jobraaten, Gulick Dalen, Hans Anderson, Jonas Nelson, Holiver Olson, Ole Syvrud, Amond Johnson and Andrew Leybeck. On arrival in the locality the settlers at first formed a camp together. Ole Simonson Jobraaten being a blacksmith, was given first choice of land. He chose the south-

east quarter of section 5, township 103, it being covered with oak timber, from which Ole burned coal to use in the forge. For long years he served the settlement as blacksmith. Ole Syvrud was an ingenious man, a gunsmith. Soon after their arrival Syvrud killed a bear, hence the name Bear creek. After making temporary homes for themselves, the settlers turned their attention to the building of a schoolhouse, which site was located near the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of section 5. Here in the log schoolhouse, long known as district 36, the children who are now the men and women of the settlement, received their education. The sons and daughters here learned the common English language and religious instruction was also given. On Sundays the building served as church for a number of years. The descendants of these settlers have always played an important part in making Racine the leading agricultural town in the county. Under the head of Frankford township, more is said of the settlement.

HAMILTON VILLAGE.

This village was platted, partly in Mower and partly in Fillmore counties, and started out with good prospects. A store was started, and business began in earnest. In 1857 and 1858 a seminary was started here with T. J. Lake as teacher. The business of the village is now across the line in Fillmore county.

RACINE VILLAGE.

Racine is a village on the Chicago, Great Western railroad, on the southwest quarter of section 26. It has an intelligent and progressive population of some two hundred people, and supports a fine Coöperative creamery, a hotel and several comfortable residences. There is a depot, two elevators, one warehouse, two general stores, one hardware store, a drug store, a meat market, a blacksmith and general repair shop, and a feed mill. The village was platted October 3, 1890. The Winona and Southwestern railroad was built through Racine township in the summer and fall of 1890. J. B. Foley was the first telegraph operator located here. He had his office in a box car for some time, until the present depot was built. S. H. Sleeper erected the first dwelling in the village, in the fall of 1890. F. E. Gahringer moved a store building from Hamilton to Racine in the early winter of 1891. Robert Eichhorn and his brother, Ed Eichhorn, rented the building and put in a stock of general merchandise. Robert Eichhorn was appointed postmaster and opened an office in the same building. Later he erected a building of his own on the south side of Main street. During the winter of 1891, Silas Utzinger erected

a handsome store, and Silas Utzinger and Charles Burkhart started in the hardware business. This business is now operated by Christian and Lewis H. Schwarz. Eli Leonard started a lumber yard and built an office on the west side of the railroad tracks in the spring of 1901, and there did business until he sold to James A. Smith, of Osage, Iowa, at which time the yard was moved to its present location. The Olson brothers, Ole, Andrew and Knudt, built a small blacksmith shop, where they did some repairing, blacksmith work and the like, for about a year. H. C. Christofferson came to Racine from High Forest, built a good residence and blacksmith shop, and commenced business in 1892. He is still in business here. In the summer of 1892, S. J. Sanborn erected a store building just east of the hardware store and rented it to M. W. Moulsted, of Spring Valley, for a general store. Mr. Sanborn enlarged the building, making it a double store, and continued in business for himself until he sold to F. E. Miland, the present owner, who is enjoying a large and successful business. A. F. Stiles purchased a lot on the north side of Main street in May, 1901. A. W. Brown, son of William Brown, formed a partnership with A. F. Stiles in the firm of Stiles & Brown, and did a good business in general merchandise, drugs, hotel, etc., until May, 1902, when by mutual consent the firm dissolved and A. F. Stiles built on the south side of Main street, where he now does a large business. A. W. Brown continued at the old stand for a few years. In its twenty-one years of existence the growth of the village has been steady and satisfactory, and the community has a prosperous future.

Village School. The village of Racine has a semi-graded school with three teachers. The early history of this school has not been preserved. S. Utzinger, who has investigated the matter, writes as follows: "I find minutes of a regular school meeting held March 27, 1869, and from then on every year, but no record previous to that. I find the school register for 1868. The schoolhouse at that time was about three-quarters of a mile east of where it now stands. I find the record of a special meeting held January 20, 1875. At this meeting it was decided to move the school building to the present location. In later years the schoolhouse has been repaired and enlarged. Martha M. Mead is given as teacher in 1868 and Sally B. Gove in 1869, but I do not think that these were the first teachers as the district was probably organized previous to that date."

High Forest village was platted at the head waters of the Root river in township 104, range 14, April 23, 1856, by John Robinson.



SARGEANT LANDMARK.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

SARGEANT TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—Organization—Early Hotel and Store—St. John's Church—Sargeant Village.

This is one of the northern tier of towns in Mower county. Its limits are those of congressional township 104 north, range 15 west of the fifth principal meridian. It is bounded on the north by Dodge county, east by Pleasant Valley, south by Dexter and west by Waltham. The surface is rolling, the soil a somewhat heavy loam, being mixed in some places with clays and is in all parts quite productive. The land is an open prairie, except along the banks of Root river, and its principal affluent, which are skirted with a flourishing growth of timber. Root river, entering the town in section 35, flows in a general northerly direction till it reaches section 12, through which it takes an easterly course into Pleasant Valley. The town receives its name from H. N. Sargeant, an early settler.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In 1860 John Butler, from Wisconsin, settled on the southeast quarter of section 11, which had been pre-empted by his brother Fred a few years before. Here he built a house and fenced the land. Soldiers were now wanted, hosts of them, to defend their country's flag. Butler enlisted and went to the war. Its perils he survived, but never came back to this town. An Englishman named William Langton settled on the northeast quarter of section 13 in the year 1863. Two years later he sold his place and moved to Rochester, where he died. His widow is still living in that city. Henry N. Sargeant, a native of Canada, having come across the border to seek a new home in the States, arrived here some time in the year 1865. He found a desirable location in the southeast quarter of section 11 and there built him a house. Samuel King settled in Sargeant township in 1869 on section 13. There were thirty acres broken and a log house and granary on the place, which constituted the improvements. He improved 200 acres of the land and weather boarded and painted the house, built a good granary and lived there until 1875, when he purchased a half section in 23 and 26 and moved there. Lieutenant Nelson A. Sumner came to Mower county in 1871 and built a house on the northwest quarter of section 35, town of Sargeant.

His brother, Warner A., had laid a land warrant on this land in 1857.

In 1872 or in 1873 Hans Peterson, C. W. Oswald, Nils Christianson, P. Johnson, O. C. Osbern and G. Thorson came here. Oswald was a German. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 11, selling out in 1882 and moving to Rochester. Christianson was a Dane. He settled on the southwest quarter of section 22, but sold in 1880 and went to Big Stone county. Peterson, also a Dane, settled in the northeast quarter of section 16. He stayed there until 1882, in which year he sold his place and removed to Marshall. Thorson, a native of Norway, settled on the southwest quarter of section 35 and lived there until 1884. In the year 1874 Peter Nilson and his son Nils Peterson, natives of Denmark, took possession of the lands on sections 8 and 16. During the same year Thor Johnson, Gjernes, his son, Nils T. Gjernes and Philip Johnson, all natives of Norway, came here. The first named settled on the northeast quarter of section 11.

C. R. Koplin, George Biersdorfer, William Prudahl and others started a German settlement in the southwest quarter of the town in 1876-77, and C. L. Swartz located farther north. The failure of the wheat crop in 1878 had a disastrous effect on the settlement. Some of them moved away and others changed their intention of coming.

ORGANIZATION.

The township of Sargeant was organized September 16, 1873; previous to that time the west half of its territory had been attached to Waltham and the east half to Pleasant Valley township. The first town meeting was held at the house of H. N. Sargeant. Mr. Sargeant was chosen moderator and James Lowry clerk of the meeting. The following were elected officers to serve until March, 1874: Chairman, Samuel King; supervisors, P. C. Olson and P. Johnson; clerk, H. N. Sargeant; treasurer, P. C. Olson; justices of the peace, L. King and Nels Christianson; constables, L. King and Hans Peterson; assessor, C. W. Oswald.

EARLY HOTEL AND STORE.

A house for the entertainment of travelers is said to have been built at an early day in the history of the settlement on the northeast quarter of section 35 by a man named Seckley (word of doubtful spelling). The property soon passed into the hands of one Dilarzon Ketchum, who, finding the business not a paying one, was glad, in his turn, to find a purchaser. Henry Bagley, who bought out Mr. Ketchum, kept the hotel open but a year, when he removed to Udolpho township. Not long after the house was closed it was burned down.

In the spring of 1865 a man named William Pitcher put up a shanty on section 26, in which he kept for sale a small stock of goods. With so few settlers in the neighborhood, it is evident that trade could not have been very brisk. The store was closed at the end of the summer and Pitcher left the township.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

(By Rev. C. A. Affeldt.)

Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church, U. A. C. In 1877 Adolf Zander, Carl Zander, August Wietstock and F. Weiss came from Goodhue county to reside on their newly acquired possession in Mower county. These attended services at Trinity church at Waltham until the following year. That year a divine connected with the Iowa Synod made occasional visits and held services at the homes of C. and A. Zander, respectively. In 1879 Henry Kerchner, F. Ladwig, William Prodahl and several others of Goodhue county arrived with their families. Rev. Achilles, connected with the Lutheran Minnesota Synod, took charge of the missionary work, conducting services in schoolhouse of District No. 114, northeast quarter of section 32, Sargeant township. In 1879 Rev. W. V. Schenk, of Rochester, Minn., was given charge. Hard times compelling many families to leave, services were discontinued for a period. In the early eighties the pastor of a Lutheran church in Dexter township (Seebach's church) again held occasional meetings until 1885, in which year Rev. J. C. H. Martin, of Trinity church, Waltham, took charge of the field and held regular services, also after being transferred to Pleasant Valley church. In 1898 Rev. Herman Meyer, of Waltham, was invested with the pastorate. That event marks the beginning of a new period. In October a meeting was held at A. Zander's for the purpose of effecting an organization, which also took place. Present were A. Zander, C. R. Kopplin, F. Lange, F. Augustin, H. Kerchner, August Wietstock, Julius Henning, Walter Pieper. Hans Augustine, of Hay Creek, Goodhue county, donated three acres of land in northeast quarter section 31, Sargeant township, a site for church and cemetery. October 6, 1900, Rev. C. A. Affeldt, of Trinity church, Waltham, was installed by Rev. A. Dubberstein. In January, 1901, after being incorporated, the congregation decided to erect a church on its site. This was done during the summer. It is a frame structure, 32x42 feet, with additional altar niche and 80-foot steeple, in which a bell is hung, cost \$2,500. In December, 1906, the first parochial school was opened in charge of Rev. W. F. Lange, formerly of Hay Creek, Minn., but now retired from active ministry. This congregation has a promising future. Present membership: 144

souls, eighty-three communicants, twenty voting members. Officials: C. A. Affeldt, pastor; A. Zander and F. Lange, elders; Carl Kerchner, Otto Goetsch, Albert Biel, trustees.

SARGEANT VILLAGE.

Sargeant village is a flourishing trading point in section 18, near the west line of the township, and is located on the Chicago Great Western. The railroad came through in 1887, established a station here, and thus made the village possible. It is in the midst of a good farming country and has a population of about one hundred persons. It has several business houses, a bank, a hotel, an elevator, a schoolhouse and Baptist and German Evangelical churches. The village is incorporated. The village was platted September 7, 1894, in section 18, township 104, range 16, by John Pfuhl.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

AUSTIN TOWNSHIP.

Location and Natural Advantages—First Settlement—First Events—Organization—Religious History—Mill Sites—Cemetery.

Austin comprises congressional township 102 north, range 18 west, except that part included in the city of Austin. It has for its neighbors Lansing on the north, Windom on the east, Lyle south, and the town of Oakland, in Freeborn county, joins it on the west. The township is drained by the Red Cedar river and its tributaries. The river traverses the town from north to south, entering section 3 from the town of Lansing, it takes a southward course, leaving the town from section 33. The principal tributaries of the river are Rose, Dobbins and Turtle creeks. When this locality was first settled the banks of Cedar river were skirted with a heavy growth of timber, while on either side back from the timber was a beautiful stretch of prairie land. The land west from the river is quite level, while on the east it is gently undulating. The soil is a rich dark loam, in some places slightly mixed with sand, in all parts very productive and well adapted to the different cereals and grasses grown in this locality.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

It is impossible to state who was the first to make a settlement within the present limits of Austin township outside of the

present city. As early as 1854 Jackson Wilder laid claim to a large tract of land east of the Red Cedar river, including what was known as the Sweetwater claim, so called from a beautiful spring of clear water. He, however, did not stop here, but pushed on to Mitchell county, Iowa. He hired a man to build a log house on the claim, which was done, but no roof was put on. In September, 1854, C. H. Huntington, A. S. Lott, Calvin Powers and Moses Rolph came from Rock county, Wisconsin, seeking a location. They discovered the Sweetwater claim located in sections 27 and 34. They also discovered that Jackson Wilder and his son Nelson living in Mitchell county, Iowa, had made a claim of the land which they wanted. As the Wilders were not living on their claim, it would have been an easy matter to have jumped the claim. But Huntington and Lott thought they would rather buy the claim at reasonable figures than to have trouble. They accordingly went to Iowa and bought the claim. The party, before returning to Wisconsin, went up the river as far as Lansing, where they selected a claim for A. B. Vaughan, on which he afterward settled. They visited the present site of the city of Austin, where they met Chauncey Leverich, who offered to sell his claim for \$500. They offered him \$450, which he refused. After this the party returned to Wisconsin. Mr. Huntington felt uneasy lest some one should jump the claim during his absence in the winter. He accordingly employed his brother-in-law, Calvin Powers, to come with his family and spend the winter. Mr. Huntington accompanied Mr. Powers on his return trip. They arrived at the Sweetwater claim November 18. They had made the trip of 250 miles with a pair of horses and a wagon and brought Mr. Powers's household goods along, as well as a stock of provisions to last through the winter. They also drove a cow along with them. Huntington employed one Foster to assist Powers to build a log house, after which he returned to Wisconsin. Powers soon had his house ready for occupancy. It was built of round logs. The building, which was twelve feet wide by fifteen feet in length, contained one window and a door. The cracks he chinked with chips and plastered with mud. He made oak shacks with which to cover the roof. Here Mr. Powers, with his wife and four small children, spent the winter. One day in February, while Mr. Powers and his family were away from home, some Indians broke into their cabin and stole their provisions. They were, however, kindly cared for and supplied with a new stock by their neighbors, the Wilders, in Iowa, and the winter was passed with little suffering.

April 15, 1855, Huntington and Lott (the latter in the meantime having married Huntington's wife's sister) started on their return to their new home, where they arrived May 6, having made

the trip overland with eight pairs of oxen and two wagons. They brought their household goods along and drove forty-eight head of young cattle and forty-four hogs. In Howard county they were joined by George Bemis and John Osborne, who made the latter part of the journey with them. Huntington and Lott brought a cast iron mill with them which was the first in use in Mower county. It was used by the people far and near for some time.

They afterward sold this mill to Quincy A. Truesdell, who operated it for a time by water power on Dobbins creek. Lott settled in section 27. Huntington settled on the Sweetwater claim. Bemis settled on the present site of the city of Austin. Osborne settled on section 33. In the fall of 1855 Powers settled on section 25, where he resided until the time of his death. During this same year there were other settlers, but none that were permanent. There were three men named Avery, a father and two sons, that made settlements in section 4. They remained but about two years, then moved away.

In 1855 the following named came: Robert Audis, Alexander Nigus, Ruben and Levi Watrous, Widow Lockwood, George Phelps and Thomas Phelps, Clem Smith, Daniel McPherson and M. J. Woodson. Audis came from Fayette county, Iowa, and settled on section 10. He opened his house as a hotel. He erected quite a good sized building for a dance hall, and there the people often gathered for a good time. Audis remained a resident of the town a few years, then returned to Iowa. Nigus settled in section 2. He was here but a little more than a year, when he sold out and moved away. The Watrous brothers and Widow Lockwood had claims in section 12. They sold out and returned to Iowa about two years later. Smith and the Phelps brothers were from Canada. Smith settled in section 23, where he bought the west half of the southeast quarter. He went to war and died in the service. Thomas Phelps pre-empted the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 32. He lived here until war times, when he sold out and moved to Vinton, Iowa, from thence he went to the war and died in the service. George Phelps pre-empted the north half of the northeast quarter of section 32. In 1858 he traded for an interest in the mill property at Cedar City. About a year later he sold and went to California. McPherson was from Canada. He settled on the northwest of section 14, where he died. Woodson was a native of Kentucky. He settled on section 14.

In 1856 there were quite a number of arrivals, among which were the following: Jacob S. Decker, W. A. Woodson, D. L. Chandler and H. Van Winkle, John Watkins, Caleb Stock, Alfred Cressy, Thomas Bonnellie, John Rose and H. E. Case, Thomas

Varco, Harry G. Prouty and Welcome Osborne. Decker was a native of New Jersey; settled on the northwest of section 1. Woodson and Van Winkle were from Illinois; had been here the previous fall and selected a claim in section 13. Watkins was a native of Wales. He settled on the northwest of section 33.

Stock was a native of England. He settled on the north one-half of the southeast quarter of section 32. Cressy was also a native of England. He settled on the southeast quarter of section 31. He afterward became a preacher. Bonnellie was a Scotchman. He preëmpted land in sections 32-33, and lived there until after the war. Rose was an eastern man, and settled in the northeast of section 25. Case was a speculator from New Britain, Connecticut. He claimed the southeast quarter of section 5. He moved a shanty from the village to the claim, and lived there long enough to preëempt, when he returned to his native state. Varco was a native of England. He settled on section 26. Prouty was a native of York state, and came from Wisconsin. He settled in the southeast of section 26, which place was his home until the time of his death. Welcome Osborne was a native of Canada. His settlement was on the southwest of section 32.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage ceremony in Austin township celebrated the nuptials of Caleb Stock and Mary Walkins. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's parents, in section 33; Sylvester Smith, justice of the peace, officiated. The first white child born within the present limits of the town of Austin, was Annette Powers, daughter of Calvin and Mercy (Beebe) Powers, September 22, 1855. The first white male child born in the town was Colbert, son of A. S. and Jane (Beebe) Lott, October 10, 1855.

MILL SITES.

Quaint Old Mill. The first mill in the neighborhood known as Cedar City, was a novel affair, constructed by Welcome Chandler in 1857. He took a hollow log, which he sunk a short distance into the ground, resting the end on a solid foundation. Over this mortar, as it might be called, he suspended a pole balanced on a post with a weight on one end and a pestle of hard wood swinging over the mortar. The corn, after having first been dried in an oven, was put into this mortar and crushed to meal. This mill served a good purpose and was resorted to by the neighbors, who had previously been grating the corn. The grater used by them was of their own make, usually an old tin pan with holes in it made by driving a nail through.

Mower County Mills. This mill was first built by Jonathan Gregson and William Gutherless, in 1862-63. They put in a dam of stone and logs, and secured eight feet head of water. They erected a stone building 30x30, two stories in height with basement. The first flour was made in September, 1863. In April, 1865, the building fell and Mr. Gutherless was buried in the ruins. He was severely injured, but no bones were broken. That same year Mr. Gregson erected a frame building on the old site. The building was 28x40 feet. In 1869 General Rusk, of Wisconsin, purchased the mill. W. H. Officer was associated with General Rusk in the purchase of the mill, and took charge at that time. The old Officer mill was burned some years ago and a grist mill now occupies the old site.

Red Cedar Mills. These mills were built in 1867 and 1868, by Jonathan Gregson. As first built the building was 22x40 feet, with a shed attached. In 1875 the building was enlarged. In 1879 the building was again enlarged. Mr. Gregson was the first to introduce the roller system into Mower county, he having put one set of rollers in as early as 1878. These mills have been rebuilt and remodeled and are now conducted by A. S. Campbell.

The Warner Mill. This mill was erected by one Warner, on Dobbins creek. It passed through various hands and was afterward removed. The dam is now in ruins.

Another Old Mill. In 1859, John Fake and Alonzo Fairbanks, purchased the steam saw mill, located east of the Cedar river, on the southwest quarter of section 2. In the spring of 1860 they put in one set of buhrs, and prepared to make flour. In 1861, Fake & Fairbanks sold the mill to Joseph Beauregard, who operated it for a time. The saw mill and engine were afterward moved to Freeborn county, while the flour machinery was put into Gregson's mill.

EARLY RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Religious meetings were held in an early day at the house of Jeremiah Phelps, in the town of Lyle. Rev. Phelps, an itinerant Methodist preacher, was the first to hold forth. As soon as the log schoolhouse was built on section 32 the meetings were held there. Among the early preachers were Elders Mapes, Beach, Loomis and John Dyer. The latter was an evangelist, or exhorter. He held a series of protracted meetings at the log schoolhouse, assisted by Rev. Alanson Beach. A number were converted and a class organized. The following were among the members: W. Means, Welcome Osborne and wife, John Osborne and wife, Welcome Chandler and wife, Thomas Phelps and wife, Jeremiah and Diadana Phelps, Jacob Eppler and wife, Joshua Welch and wife,

John Chandler and Joshua Eppler. The first pastor of this class was Rev. Mapes. He was followed by Rev. Willis Ticknor.

In 1867, Rev. Carver, a Methodist preacher, then stationed at Austin, preached in the schoolhouse, in district No. 55, and organized a class there. Among the members were W. Hall and wife, R. H. Densmore and wife, G. W. Clough and wife, J. N. Patterson and wife and John King and wife. J. N. Patterson was elected class leader. Meetings were held once in two weeks for a few years.

Rose Creek Cemetery. This cemetery, which is located in the southern part of section 24, Austin township, was laid out in June, 1862, and the first officials were Thomas Varco, Harvey Proudly and Ezra Ames. The first burial was that of Harvey Pratt, son of D. O. and A. L. Pratt, in 1862. The cemetery society was incorporated in 1862. The present officers are: President, F. H. Pike; secretary, J. W. Varco; treasurer, C. H. Lott; superintendent, C. O. Brownell; director, F. M. Duffy. The cemetery presents an excellent appearance, and is well kept. The Happy Thought Club has done much to improve its appearance.

The Happy Thought Club. On June 22, 1905, Mrs. Frank H. Pike invited the ladies interested in general township improvements to meet at her home for the purpose of organizing a society for the improvement and beautifying of the Rose Creek cemetery at Varco station. The organization was afterward named the Happy Thought Club. The officers are: President, Mrs. Frank H. Pike; vice president, Mrs. E. V. Hart; secretary, Mrs. W. H. Aultfather; treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Varco. The club is in a flourishing condition, has eighty-five members, and has raised \$369.45 for improvements.

Cedar City Cemetery. This cemetery is pleasantly located on the south one-half of section 32, and contains three-fourths of an acre of land. It was surveyed in 1879, by G. H. Clough, and contained at that time forty-two lots, 18x20. This was used as a burial place a number of years before it was platted. The first burial here was that of a man named Robinson, assistant editor of the Mower County Mirror.

The Evergreen Stock Farm. The Ellis Evergreen stock farm is located within fifteen minutes walk of the C., M. & St. P. depot at Austin, and is but a mile from the heart of the city. The farm consists of a section of land, about one-fifth being timber and pasturage, the balance being under cultivation. The 120 acres where the house is located was the original farm and was added to piecemeal. It was not counted a valuable acquisition when Mr. Ellis secured it over half a century ago. It was covered with hazel brush and a low growth of burr oaks. Mr

and Mrs. Ellis moved onto the farm in 1859 and in common with other early settlers, suffered privations and hardships which the present generation can scarcely comprehend.

After the wheat failure in 1877, Mr. Ellis realized the need of more and better stock, and was the first farmer in Mower county to purchase thoroughbred cattle. He selected the Holsteins and placed them upon his farm in 1878, and this fine stock soon advertised the farm all over the northwest. There are thousands of evergreens upon the farm, some of them over forty years old. They were all planted and cared for by Mr. Ellis himself. The storm of June 20, 1908, destroyed hundreds of them, as well as hundreds of the trees of native timber. The farm is now owned and operated by Mrs. A. V. Ellis, Joseph Helebrant, the foreman, having been on the farm for the past seventeen years. It is one of the largest dairy farms in the county. Holstein cattle, both registered and grades, are kept. The name "Evergreen Farms" was registered in 1909, and was the last paper Mr. Ellis signed.

Two Rivers was laid out and platted June 11, 1857, by Robert Audis and George B. Hayes, in section 10, township 102, range 18. It existed only on paper.

Varco station consists of a railroad station and an elevator. It is situated in the southern part of Austin township on both the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Chicago Great Western. It was platted in section 26, township 102, range 18, November 17, 1875, by Thomas Varco.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

LANSING TOWNSHIP.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—Organization—Bounty—Churches—Railroads—First Events—Mills—Cemeteries—Lansing Village—Early Interests—Masonic Lodge—Ramsey Junction—Corning Village.

Lansing is bounded on the north by Udolpho, east by Red Rock, south by Austin city and township, west by Freeborn county, and comprises all of township 103, range 13. The town is well provided with water and timber. The Red Cedar river enters the township in section 2, flowing through sections 11, 14, 23, 26 and 34, thence entering Austin city. This river is noted for



LANSING LANDMARK.

its valuable water powers. Spring creek rises in section 4, flows in a southeasterly direction through section 3, and enters the Red Cedar in section 11. Well's creek rises in section 16, passes in a southeasterly direction through sections 15, 14, and empties into the Red Cedar in section 23. Dobins creek enters the town in section 36, from where it passes into Austin township. Turtle creek enters the township at the northwest corner of section 31, through which section it flows; leaving the town at the southeast corner. Timber was quite plenty along the Red Cedar river when the county was first settled, but was largely cut off for building purposes. There is still considerable second growth timber in the township.

On either side of the Red Cedar the country is comparatively level, generally with sufficient drainage. The western portion of the town has more of a rolling tendency, with groves of small oaks and grubs. Otherwise the township is a rolling prairie.

The prairie along the Red Cedar is composed of a rich soil of clay and vegetable mould, with a sprinkling of sand, making a natural corn soil. In the western part of the town, with exception of the prairie, yellow clay predominates. The prairie is composed of a black loam, underneath which is a clay subsoil.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first to make a settlement in the township was H. O. Clark, known as "Hunter Clark," a name given him from his being an expert hunter. He came to the township in the fall of 1853. He took a claim and settled on the northeast quarter of section 34. He built a log cabin a short distance northeast of where Oakwood cemetery is now located. Clark was of the true pioneer stamp, ever seeking a newer country. He sold his claim to William Baudler, who took possession May 8, 1855. Clark went west, where he could have room. The last seen of him was in Idaho.

Samuel Clayton settled in sections 26 and 27, in the spring of 1854. He built his log house in section 26. He had a wife and several children. Mr. Clayton was a member of the M. E. church. The first religious services were held at his house. He built a shop and worked at his trade of blacksmith. He was one of the first, if not the first, to work at blacksmithing in the county. He worked at his trade, in connection with farming, until 1865, when he sold out to Michael Teeter and went to Kansas.

N. G. Perry settled in the township in the fall of 1854. He was accompanied by Samuel Dixon. They were formerly from New York state, and had their families with them. Mr. Perry sold his farm to C. P. Bell. He afterwards purchased another

farm in the western part of the township. He sold out a few years later and went to Nebraska and to Knox county, Kansas.

John Pettibone, a bachelor, entered three eighties in section 11, in 1854. He remained here until 1857, when he sold out to A. B. Vaughan and D. M. V. Stewart and returned to Ohio.

Alanson B. Vaughan came to Mower county, in company with two sons, in the fall of 1854. They were from Rock county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Vaughan had been engaged in the mercantile trade. They took claims in section 10 in this township. After letting the contract for building a house returned to Wisconsin, where they remained through the winter. In the spring of 1855 Mr. Vaughan, with his family, accompanied by his five grown sons, two of whom were married, came with teams to their new homes in Mower county. The sons of A. B. Vaughan are Phineas D., John G., Enoch G., Herman B., Benjamin K. Phineas D. located on the southeast quarter of section 3; John G. the southeast quarter of section 2; Enoch G. the northeast quarter of section 10; Herman B. the southeast of section 10.

There came in 1856, Thomas Gibson, William Rutherford, John P. and Harear Lyons, J. H. Watkins, H. C. Aldrich, Jos. Gillen, Martin McNally, Jos. Smith, James McLaughlin, A. Bartlett, John Dignan, James N. Cook, A. H. Chapin, Lewis Thompson, William Litchfield, Jonas Haney, George Baird and others. Among those who came in later and have been prominent in town affairs are George Wood, John Mathieson, A. C. Boynton, E. H. Wells, G. W. Grimshaw, Robert Lewis, C. C. Bell, M. Gregson, M. Teeter and Ole G. Anderson.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first couple to be joined in the holy bonds of wedlock was Silas Dutcher and Mary R. Perry, which notable event took place August 27, 1856, Sylvester Smith, of Austin, presiding. Another early marriage in the township was Nelson M. Wilder and Maria H. Vaughan, which occurred January 4, 1861, Rev. H. I. Parker, a Baptist minister, officiating. Mr. Wilder died in Nebraska, where he had gone for his health, in 1880.

The first child born in Lansing township was Adeline Ruth, daughter of P. D. and Elizabeth Vaughan, which event occurred August 8, 1856. She was married December 6, 1877, to George Russell.

The first death was that of Daniel McPherson, a Scotchman from Canada. He was a single man and made his home with Mr. Dobbins in section 22. While at work on the old log school-house Mr. McPherson fell, by which he sustained injuries that caused his death. He died in the autumn of 1857 and was buried

in section 27, the exact location being lost, owing to the road passing over the grave.

ORGANIZATION.

A warrant was issued April 18, 1858, calling upon the citizens of Lansing township to meet and organize. Pursuant to said notice the legal voters met in the old log schoolhouse in section 27 and elected the following officers: Supervisors, A. B. Vaughan, chairman, Jonas Haney, E. A. Snow; clerk, P. D. Vaughan; assessor, James McLaughlin; collector, Enoch Vaughan; overseer, J. H. Watkins; justices of the peace, A. B. Vaughan and Emery Snow; constable, John P. Lyons; overseer of highways, John P. Lyons.

SOLDIERS' BOUNTY.

At a special meeting of the voters of Lansing, held at the village of Lansing, September 5, 1862, A. Sprague was elected chairman, P. G. Lamoreaux clerk pro tem. The following resolutions were unanimously passed: "Resolved, That we raise by tax on the property of the town of Lansing, one hundred and fifty dollars. That we pay twenty-five dollars to each of the following named persons who enlisted into the service of the United States, after August 20, 1862, and prior to August 26, 1862, or as many of these as may be accredited to this town in making up the quota for the call of the president for 600,000 troops, and the filling up of the old regiments: John Harlley, Benjamin Vaughan, Augustus Whitney, ——— Phillips, William M. Lent, D. B. Vaughan."

RELIGIOUS.

Methodist Episcopal. The first religious services held in Lansing township were at the house of Samuel Clayton, in 1855, by Rev. W. E. Holbrook, a Methodist minister from Iowa. Occasional services were held by him at houses in the neighborhood until 1857, when the Pettibone house was fixed up for school purposes, in which meetings were afterwards held. Rev. Mr. Phelps also held services at different houses in the neighborhood in 1856. A class of the Methodist denomination was formed about 1855 and meetings held at houses in the neighborhood. Meetings were afterwards held at the old Pettibone schoolhouse in District No. 43. The organization was kept up until about 1857-58, when the class was divided, a part going to Austin and a part to Lansing village. This class was organized by Rev. W. E. Holbrook. Rev. Mr. Mapes also held services in the township at an early day. The first services of the Lansing branch were held at the schoolhouse, the building later used by George Wood as a residence. There was a membership of about twelve. In 1856 the founda-

tion for a brick church building was begun, and the walls well up, when they were unfortunately blown down, which added materially to the future cost of the building. Work, however, was immediately resumed and the building completed that summer at a total cost of about \$3,000. The house was built through the efforts of Rev. W. M. Soules, at that time in charge of the congregation. Rev. E. R. Lathrop was another early pastor. The present pastor is E. H. Bedford, of Brownsdale.

Catholic Church. The first services of this church in the township were held at the house of Thomas Gibson, in section 12, in the fall of 1859. Through the efforts of A. Brown, of Austin, John Digman and Thomas Gibson, the services of Father Pendergast, of Winona, were procured, who held services as above stated. He also held services during the summer of 1860. Father Kellar, from Faribault, held occasional services at the house of Mr. Gibson until the fall of 1867, when Father John McDermot was located at Austin. He held occasional services in the township until the spring of 1869, when he was succeeded by Father Jenais. Members of this church in the township, now attend church at Austin.

Baptist Church. The first proceedings in the organization of this church was a meeting called by members of the church, who had settled at Lansing and vicinity, at the house of N. S. Dorwin, for the purpose of organizing a Baptist church. At this meeting Milton McCall was chosen moderator, B. D. Sprague, clerk. The meeting resulted in the organization of the church, at the school-house in Lansing, January 19, 1862. Those who were present at this meeting were Milton McCall, Edward Bassett, B. D. Sprague, P. G. Lamoreaux, N. S. Dorwin and wife, Lou A. Sprague. Rev. M. Craven, from High Forest, helped in the organization. The church held communion services December 21, 1862. The first Covenant meeting was April 5, 1862. The first baptism was April 12, 1863. The candidates were Mrs. Julia A. McCall, Betta Vaughan, and Ellen Page. The first minister was Rev. H. I. Parker, who had charge of the church ten years. He was succeeded by Rev. Amos Weaver, from Wisconsin, but formerly from New York. He remained with the church about three years, when he was succeeded by Rev. R. Sadick, from England. Services are now held every other Sunday in the Methodist church, in charge of Rev. C. D. Belden, of Austin.

Congregational Church. This church was organized August 23, 1867, Rev. Mr. Morse presiding. The first officers were D. M. Evans, S. H. Smith, deacons; George W. Robinson, clerk. Rev. Philo Canfield, from Albert Lea, took charge of the church October 1, 1867. After remaining six months he was relieved by Rev. Mr. Booth, he by Rev. George B. Nutting, he by Rev. J. D. Todd,

he by Rev. Mr. Toby, and he by Rev. Mr. Rounse, who served until 1881, since which time there has been no regular service.

RAILROADS.

The old Minnesota Central, now the Iowa and Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway company, in October, 1867, built its road through the township, entering the town in section 3, passing through sections 19, 15, 14, 23, 26, 35, from which section it passes into Austin.

The Southern Minnesota railroad, now owned by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, was built through the township in 1869-70. The road enters the town at the southeast corner of section 13, and runs in a southwesterly direction through sections 24-23, in which latter section it forms a junction with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and proceeds on its course through sections 22, 27, 28, 29, 31, from which section it enters Freeborn county.

A special vote was taken at the general election held April 7, 1882, to vote aid to the Austin, Mankato & St. Cloud Railway company. Four thousand dollars was voted, there being 71 votes in favor, to 35 against. The line now known as the Chicago Great Western was completed through the township in 1885.

MILLS.

Ramsey Mill. This mill is located on the west bank of the Cedar river in section 23, near Ramsey Junction. Mathew Gregson, the proprietor, commenced the erection of the building and dam in October, 1872, working on the foundation and dam that winter, completing the mill the next summer in time for the next crop. The mill was supplied with four run of buhrs, which are run by water power. In the summer of 1884 rollers were added and a fine grade of flour was manufactured under the roller process. This mill is still in operation.

Lansing Flouring Mill. Lansing Flouring Mill was located on the west bank of the Red Cedar in section 2. The mill was originally built by Higley & Richards, in 1877. The building was burned in March, 1883. The site was then purchased by Simon Alverson, who rebuilt the mill on the site of the old one that summer. The ruins of the dam is now the only reminder of this mill.

Lansing Mill. A steam mill was built at Lansing village in 1857 by A. B. Vaughan, the engine of which was hauled by teams from Wabasha, Wabasha county, Minnesota. It was run as a saw mill until 1860, when it was converted into a grist mill and run as such about three years, when the engine was sold and taken

to Osage, in Mitchell county, Iowa. In the winter of 1866-67 the building and machinery were repaired and a wind mill put up for furnishing power. It was run with varied success until 1869, when the wind mill was taken down and the buhrs sold. The building was sold to L. Hawley, who removed it to his farm and converted it into a barn.

Turtle Creek Cheese Factory. A joint stock company was organized in the fall of 1874, under the laws of the state, with a capital of \$2,000. There were forty shares issued at \$50 a share. The stockholders were S. N. Frisbee, John Van House, Granville Kearn, Jerome Rodgers, Jonas Haney, A. P. McBride, Daniel E. Bero, James M. Cook, N. S. Hardy, Israel Pace, Michael Teeter, Merrick Knok, H. W. Page, Oliver Shaw, Solner & Morgan, A. Harwood, R. O. Hall. The business is under the control of a board of five directors, elected annually. The first directors were S. N. Frisbee, John Van House, Jerome Rodgers, Jonas Haney, E. McBride. The cheese factory building was commenced in the fall of 1874. When nearly completed it was blown down. It was immediately rebuilt. It is a two-story frame building, 26x52 feet. Cheese making commenced June 10, 1875. The cheese manufactured was of a high quality and won many prizes. The business was closed up many years ago.

CEMETERIES.

Lansing Cemetery. Is located on the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of section 11, the ground being donated by A. B. Vaughan, and is incorporated under the laws of the state. The first burial was that of Gardner Mitchell. He came from Wisconsin here, but formerly lived in Rhode Island. He was a veteran of the war of 1812. He made his home with the Vaughans until his death.

Oakwood Cemetery is located in this township. Its history is related elsewhere.

LANSING VILLAGE.

Lansing is a lively village of some one hundred inhabitants, and is noted especially for the creamery which is operated by the Lansing Coöperative Dairy Association. It has a railroad station, an elevator, a public school, a hotel, a postoffice and a Methodist church. It was at one time incorporated but gave up its charter.

This village clusters around the corner stake of sections 2, 3, 10 and 11. It was surveyed and platted in 1858, by Charles Carter, for A. B. Vaughan, the proprietor. The first building on the site was a log house erected in 1855, by A. B. Vaughan for a residence. The first building for business purposes was erected

by P. D. Vaughan in the fall of 1858. He rented the building to John Clark, who put in a small stock of goods. In the fall of 1859 this building was burned. In 1860 Clark closed out the business.

EARLY BUSINESS.

The first blacksmith in the village was Alfred Clough, who located here in the summer of 1857. He remained here until 1866, then returned to Wisconsin. Later came Sidney Fuller.

P. D. Vaughan opened a store in the fall of 1864, putting a small stock of general merchandise into a small building on the north side of the creek. The same fall George Wood purchased an interest in the business and they moved to more commodious quarters on the south side of the creek. In the spring of 1866 they sold to A. B. Vaughan, who continued in the business until 1868, when he closed out. During the fall of 1867 there were two warehouses built here, one of them by a Mr. Eames, from Lake City. In 1868, Bassett, Huntting & Co. erected a warehouse, and in 1870 O. C. LaBar erected one. Wood & La Bar were also early buyers. The Huntting Elevator Company still operates here. The first lumber yard was established in 1867 by Vaughan & Wood. They continued in the business until 1870, when they closed out.

The store of P. D. and W. B. Vaughan, general merchants, was commenced in the fall of 1875, by Warren B. Vaughan, when he had just received the appointment of postmaster. He put in a stock of groceries, drugs and stationery, valued at \$1,000. He conducted the business alone until the fall of 1877, when he formed a partnership with his father, P. D. Vaughan. Charles E. Payne now conducts a general store in the village.

H. M. McIntyre, general merchant, commenced business in company with John Bartlett, under the firm name of Bartlett & McIntyre, in the store building known as the Weller building. In November, 1880, Mr. McIntyre purchased his partner's interest, and is still in business.

Among early physicians at Lansing were Josef Alloys, R. Soule, a Dr. Lafayette, and W. L. Hollister.

The first station agent at Lansing was Charles Linton. He remained in the office about two years, when he went to Medford, in Steele county, Minnesota. The first express agent was A. B. Vaughan, which office he held until 1872.

The Lansing Hotel was built as a private residence by Patrick Eagan in 1860. It was first kept as a hotel by Benjamin Carl in the fall of 1864. He continued to act the part of jolly host until the spring of 1867, when his son-in-law, William Brown, took charge. In the fall of that year he was succeeded by Chauncey

Maxfield, who purchased the property. The hotel is now kept by John E. Chaffee.

Incorporation. The village was incorporated by an act of the legislature, and approved by the governor, February 17, 1871; was witnessed by the secretary of state, March 30, 1881. George Wood, C. J. Ricker and J. W. George were designated commissioners to call an election. The first election was held at the post-office March 10, 1881, and the following named officers were elected: President, W. H. White; trustees, John Watkins, George W. Williams, J. G. Vaughan; recorder, H. McIntyre; justice of the peace, J. E. Robinson; treasurer, John Bartlett; assessor, H. Rowe; constable, John Thompson. At this meeting John J. Guthrie was clerk, P. D. Vaughan and J. H. Watkins, judges. The charter was surrendered some years since.

Lansing Lodge No. 72, A. F. and A. M. An informal meeting was held at the schoolhouse, and a petition sent to the W. G. M. of the grand lodge of Minnesota, signed by the following named: W. L. Hollister, P. D. Vaughan, George W. Robinson, J. F. Smith, William M. Evans, John McCall, J. W. George, T. B. Morrill, A. B. Vaughan, S. R. Gunn, J. B. Graves, E. J. Stimson—asking that a dispensation be granted. On April 10, 1868, a dispensation was received. W. L. Hollister was appointed W. M.; P. D. Vaughan, S. W.; George W. Robinson, J. W. The first meeting was held at Willis hall, April 13, 1868. A charter was granted January 4, 1869, and the following members elected: W. L. Hollister, W. M.; P. D. Vaughan, S. W.; G. W. Robinson, J. W.; J. F. Smith, T.; A. B. Vaughan, S.

RAMSEY JUNCTION.

Ramsey Junction is a station at the junction of the Iowa and Minnesota and the Southern Minnesota divisions of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. It was platted November 18, 1873, the proprietor being D. J. Cameron. At one time an effort was made to have the county seat located at this point. Until 1887 stages were run from Austin to this point and a number of eating houses flourished. With the building of the "Y" to Austin, the importance of Ramsey ceased. The first station agent was Harvey Coleman.

CORNING VILLAGE.

Corning Village, located in the extreme northwestern corner of Lansing township, and the southwestern corner of Udolpho township, is a thriving little settlement with a general store, a creamery and a near-by Lutheran church. The postoffice at this point has been continued.

The Corning Creamery Company. This concern has a thriving

business, and is well conducted. The officers are: President, C. B. Christianson; secretary, O. A. Ulland; treasurer, O. G. Anderson.

The Corning Farmers' Telephone Company has a large patronage. The officers are: President, C. B. Christianson; vice president, Nels Goodwin; secretary, O. A. Ulland; treasurer, S. S. Ulland; directors, G. Tollefson, Albert Ulland and Thomas Dowd.

The Lansing Co-operative Creamery Company was incorporated February 15, 1894, with a capital of \$2,500. The first officers were: President, H. S. Hammond; vice president, John Mathieson; treasurer, O. C. LeBar; secretary, H. W. McIntyre; directors, E. H. Wells, O. J. Rhoades, H. B. Roe. The company commenced business on the present site, section 11, township 103, range 18, in a building purchased from the Lansing Cheese & Butter Manufacturing Company. A new building was erected in 1906 and the capital stock increased to \$6,500 a year later. In 1894 \$6,779.17 was paid for butter; in 1910, \$49,698.29 was paid. The present officers are: President, H. S. Hammond; vice president, P. G. Peterson; treasurer, A. J. Pollock; secretary, H. M. McIntyre; directors, R. A. Carll, Ferd. Schutt, Anton Schradle.

CHAPTER XL.

ADAMS TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

**Location and Advantages — Early Settlement — Organization —
First Events—Religious—Frozen to Death—Village of Adams.**

The town of Adams embraces congressional town 101, north of range 16 west of the fifth principal meridian, and is bounded on the north by the town of Marshall, east by Lodi, south by Mitchell county, Iowa, and west by Nevada township. The surface of the town is quite undulating, the soil being of a dark, rich loam, with a clay subsoil. The soil is very productive, and grows all kinds of grain, vegetables and grasses. The township is well watered and drained by the Little Cedar river and its tributaries. The main branch enters the town in section 12, running in a westerly course through sections 11, 10, to the center of section 9, where it bears south and passes through sections 16, 21, 28, and leaves the town in section 33. One of its branches enters the town from the town of Marshall, in section 4, passes in a southerly direction, making a confluence with the main branch in section 9. Another branch also enters the town from Marshall in section 2, and forms a junction with the main branch in section 11.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first to settle in Adams township was Thomas Knudtson. He came in June, 1855. He settled on his claim, which consisted of the south half of the northwest, and the north half of the southwest quarter of section 2. He there erected the first house in the town. It was built of logs, 18x18, and eight feet high, covered with hay and prairie sod, with puncheon floor. The next year he put on a shingled roof. He lived in this house about seven years, when he built another log house 16x18, 12 feet high. He lived in that house about nine years, when he disposed of his farm and moved to section 35, in Marshall township. In July, 1855, Reynold Olson, John D. Olson, J. H. Johnson, Stephen Olson, Ole Johnson and Stephen Christianson, natives of Norway, came together from Dane county, Wisconsin. R. and J. D. Olson settled in section 12. J. H. Johnson settled in Clayton township, but later came to the township and settled in section 2. Ole Johnson settled in the northeast quarter of section 12. Christianson and S. Olson made their homes with R. and J. D. Olson. They were frozen to death in December of that year.

Among the settlers of 1856 were John Leisenfelt, Peter Leisenfelt, Michael Bowland. John Q. Olson settled in section 12, where he lived until 1884, when he went to Dakota. Those that came later are John Heimer, Mathias Cary, John Webber, Patrick M. Rooney, William Madden, M. Krebsbach, C. Krebsbach, Michael Smith. John Heimer settled on the southeast of section 32. John Webber settled in section 32, in 1857. Nels Rierson, from Norway, settled in section 16, where he lived until 1860, when he left his improvements and moved to LeRoy township, where he improved a farm upon which he lived until his death in 1883. Rasmus Rasmusson also came in 1857, and settled in section 4, where he lived a few years, then moved elsewhere in the county.

ORGANIZATION.

The town of Adams was organized in May, 1858. The first town meeting was held in section 16, on the open prairie. At this meeting the following officers were elected, viz.: For township board, Mathias Rooney, chairman; Mathew Carey, Reynold Olson; treasurer, P. F. Rooney; clerk, Wm. Madden; justices of the peace, William Madden and Stephen Heimer; constables, Ole T. Jacobson and John Sanders.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first couple to be joined in the holy bonds of wedlock was M. Krebsbach and Susan Bades. The great event took

place in September, 1858. The first birth in the township was a daughter of Stephen Olson, born in December, 1855, a few days after the death of her father. She lived to be about two years of age, when she died, and was buried in section 11. Mathew Heimer, son of Stephen Heimer, has the credit of being the first male child born in the township. He was born March 29, 1858. The first seeder, moving and threshing machines were brought to the township by M. Krebsbach. He also owned the first span of horses in the township. J. S. Irgens was the first postmaster in the town. The office was kept at his house, in section 8. The office was established in 1859.

RELIGIOUS.

(By Rev. O. C. Myhre.)

Little Cedar Norwegian Lutheran Congregation. The first settlers of Norwegian descent who located in this part of the county came originally from Dane county, Wisconsin, in the year 1855. Having been brought up in a Christian home in their native country and taught that "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," the yearning for the sanctuary and the administration of the means of grace soon manifested itself. Before the organization of a congregation could be effected services were originally held in the private homes of some of the settlers. The first services of which there is any record were conducted in the home of Stephen Olson and Stephen Christianson on section 12, in June, 1856. Rev. C. L. Clausen, of St. Ansgar, Iowa, the first pastor who visited this section, conducted these services. He was also present at the meeting on November 26, 1859, in the home of Halge E. Floeu, on which date the Little Cedar Lutheran Congregation was organized. The name "Little Cedar Lutheran Congregation" was adopted because of the river by that name running through the southern part of our county and because the Lutheran banner of confession was to float over it. Among other pastors who also visited the pioneers before the organization of the congregation were Rev. A. C. Preus, of Koshkonong, Dane county, Wisconsin. The original founders of this congregation were: Ragnald and John Holstad, Tidemand and Eric Asberg, John and Harold Irgens, John Osmundson, John O. Heyedahl, Simon Knutson, John O. Quale, Hendrick Benson, Helge Floen, Ole Gulickson Tildem, Gulick and Tollef Tildem, Anders O. Alreck, Ole J. Holstad, Rasmus Wigness, Nils Finkelson, etc. Among the first trustees only the following can be mentioned, because the records of the first meeting are very incomplete: Ragnald Olson and John Olson. The first church—a very primi-

tive log church—was built in 1863, on the southeast quarter of section 4. The site and cemetery grounds were bought of Rasmus Wigness. The size of the church was 30x40 and sixteen feet high. Each voting member donated a certain number of logs. Tide-mand Aaberg and Torris Flaten had charge of its erection. During this period the Civil war broke out and several of the men enlisted. Rev. C. L. Clausen, the pastor in charge, also served as chaplain in this war. During his absence the following pastors served the congregation: Tobias Larson and Wilhelm Koren. On October 12, 1867, the following congregations united to form one charge, with Rev. Clausen as pastor: Little Cedar, St. Ansgar, Rock Creek, Six Miles Grove and Red Oak Grove. This organization existed till the spring of 1871. On April 12 of this year Little Cedar, Austin, Red Oak Grove and Blooming Prairie united to form one charge. At this time Rev. P. G. Ostby, who for some time had been Rev. Clausen's assistant, was called as permanent pastor. During his service, which lasted about seven years, the old log church was abandoned and on November 1, 1875, it was decided to put up a new frame building on the old site. The dimensions of this building were: 40x60x20, a vestry 16x24x16, tower 96 feet.

On October 5, 1877, Six Miles Grove, Mona and Lyle and Little Cedar congregations formed a new charge and extended a call to Prof. B. B. Heldaker. He served till 1881, when ill health obliged him to resign. A call was then extended to Rev. J. M. Eggers, of Rock Prairie, Rock county, Wisconsin. He was installed January 1, 1882, and served the congregation nineteen years. At the time of his resignation the Little Cedar congregation united with the West LeRoy congregation and extended a call to Rev. W. A. Rasmussen, of Wind Lake, Wisconsin. He served the congregation five years and six months. During his time the parsonage was built. This is a very substantial and modern building. The size is: 28x32—15x26—6x8—two and one-half stories, with basement under the whole structure. In connection with this, five acres of land were bought within the corporation of Adams. At a regular meeting May 21, 1906, a call was extended to Rev. O. C. Myhre, of Windom, Minnesota. He was installed as pastor of the Little Cedar and West LeRoy congregations September 30, 1906. At this time the members of the congregation who reside in the village of Adams again petitioned the congregation to build a church in that place. At a regular meeting on February 13, 1907, it was decided to put up such a church and the necessary committees were elected. This building was completed in 1908. The Adams church is a very beautiful and substantial brick structure, size 74x54, with basement under the whole building. The cornerstone was laid by

Rev. J. M. Eggen, assisted by Rev. M. E. Waldland, of St. Ansgar, Iowa, and the pastor loci, September 1, 1907. At a district meeting of the St. Ansgar circuit, held in Adams, this church was dedicated by Rev. T. H. Dahl, D.D., October 25, 1908. At a business meeting June 21, 1909, it was also decided to repair the old country church. This reparation was completed before November 26, 1909, on which date the fiftieth anniversary of the congregation was fittingly observed. This church was later destroyed by fire June 21, 1910.

Since the organization of this congregation several societies have been working in its midst: Three Ladies' Aid societies, the Busy Bee Society, the Little Cedar Young People's Society and Little Cedar Total Abstinence Society. All these societies have worked faithfully and accomplished much good in the Lord's vineyard at home and abroad.

The present officers of the Little Cedar Lutheran Church are: Pastor, O. C. Myhre; trustees, B. P. Haugen, N. Gravidahl, A. Amble, Eric Weness; deacons, John Matteson, H. J. Hanson, P. J. Sathre, S. K. Hegge; organist, Ida Anderson; secretary, H. J. Hanson. The congregation has a membership of about 500 and is connected with the United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

Stephen Olson and Stephen Christianson, spoken of as settlers of July, 1855, were frozen to death December 8, 1855. They started on the morning of that day, with ox teams, to go to the Norwegian settlement at Six Mile Grove, in Nevada township, to procure provisions, in which the settlers were in much need. They procured provisions and started home. A severe snow storm set in and they evidently got lost. The team found their way home that night. One of the men's hats was found attached to the yoke. The next morning a party started in search. Their dead bodies were found three days later, in Lodi township. Each left a wife and one child. They were buried in section 11.

Alice, second daughter of Mathew Rooney, was frozen to death in the winter of 1872, the circumstances of which are as follows: It seems that Frank, a son, and Alice had gone to the village of Adams to trade, as Alice was to commence school at Austin the next Monday. The two left the village for home, with sleigh and horses about dark. It was storming very hard from the northwest. As the team had to face the storm, it was impossible to drive them, and in turning around broke the sleigh tongue. They wandered around all night. They were found the next morning just over in Iowa. Alice died; Frank lost his feet.

JOHNSBURG.

Johnsburg, or Johansburg, as it was formerly called, is an old settlement in section 32, containing a Catholic church, a general store and several residences.

St. John's Church, R. C. The first religious services in Adams township were held at the house of John Fagans, in 1858. The next year (1859) the inhabitants erected a log church 16x20, ten feet high. In 1860 an addition 12x14 was built on to the old building. The building was used for church purposes until 1868, when it was replaced by a substantial frame structure. The building was provided with steeple and bell, which cost \$300. The building complete cost \$4,000. This was the first Catholic church in the county. Rev. B. Bowman was the first permanent priest; he came in 1875, remaining with the church six years. The church was commenced by Father Keller, collecting by subscription. The ten acres on which the church stands was given to the church by John Heinner. The church was incorporated in 1883.

VILLAGE OF ADAMS.

The village of Adams originated in a cluster of buildings about the center stake of section 11. The first business building was erected by W. E. Davis & Bros. in the fall of 1867. They put in a general stock of goods. They remained in business here until 1871, when they sold out to M. Krebsbach. A. D. Harris engaged in the mercantile trade here in 1882. The first saloon was opened by one Beacher, who came here in the summer of 1867. The village was platted January 30, 1868, by Selah Chamberlain.

ADAMS IN 1873.

As early as 1873 Adams was a flourishing trading point. There was a good school and railroad station, with J. R. Millinan as agent. Mathias Krebsbach was a grain buyer and a partner in the firm of Krebsbach & Corbitt, general merchants, in whose store the postoffice was kept. I. W. Miner dealt in produce and farm machinery, and had three warehouses filled with wheat. Barnhart & O'Brien did general blacksmithing and repairing. John Carr kept the Shamrock House.

MODERN ADAMS.

Adams is one of the larger villages of the county and has a population of nearly six hundred people. It is progressive in every respect, has Catholic and Lutheran churches, a bank, a creamery, a telephone system, cement sidewalks, waterworks, gas

plant, newspaper, public school, parochial school, fire department, telephone service and the like. Among its business activities may be mentioned: Two elevators, one creamery, two general stores, one hotel, two hardware stores, one drug store, one harness shop, one meat market, four saloons, one physician, one dentist, one garage, one livery, one brewery warehouse, one photographer, two blacksmith shops, one lumber yard. Among the leading citizens may be mentioned: Mathias Krebsbach, John H. Krebsbach, Michael Krebsbach, Wm. W. Dean, John Gilligan, H. Carey, J. H. Carey, P. H. Carr, J. W. Carr, J. W. Heimer, A. Torgerson, E. L. Slindee, W. H. Cavanaugh, Rev. F. B. Reichel, Rev. O. C. Myhre, Paul C. Keith, N. M. Smith, E. V. Smith, C. E. Bennett.

MUNICIPAL HISTORY.

The village of Adams was incorporated March 2, 1887. The first officers were: President, Mathias Krebsbach; recorder, H. Carey; J. W. Carr, E. A. Knutson and Michael Krebsbach. At present the officers are: President, N. M. Smith; recorder, A. J. Krebsbach; John Steichen, Anton Schneider, C. E. Bennett. In its municipal government the village of Adams has shown true progress. In the summer of 1897 a water works system was put in, with full equipment of well, tower, tank, pumping station, and sufficient mains to practically cover the village. In 1902 a complete sewerage system was installed. A year later came the gas plant, which keeps the streets well lighted, and also supplies illumination for residences and business places. In 1906 a new village hall was erected to replace the old one built in 1889. This hall is the pride of the village. Its upper floor contains the council chambers, while the lower floor is given to the fire apparatus and the jail. The fire apparatus is manned by a competent volunteer fire department, and is admirably suited to the purpose for which it was intended.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

Adams village has two churches and two schools. The story of the Little Cedar Lutheran Congregation is given elsewhere.

Church and School of the Sacred Heart. These institutions occupy an important place in the life of the village. The present church which is a beautiful brick structure was erected in 1902. Rev. F. B. Reichel is the pastor, and the trustees are Fred King and August Rooney. The school is a substantial frame building, the rear rooms being used as a convent for the five sisters of the order of St. Francis who teach the parochial school and perform the other Christian duties to which their vow calls them. A parsonage has also been erected.

School. The Adams village school is district 8. The first school was erected in 1858. In 1873 another building was put up. The present four-room structure was erected in the early nineties. The board is: A. Torgerson, secretary; O. I. Thon, treasurer; A. O. Sjobakken, trustee.

ORGANIZATIONS.

The village of Adams has three fraternities. The Commercial Club is also in a flourishing condition, and the Adams Co-operative Creamery Company has been an important factor in bringing the farmers into the village.

Sacred Heart Court, No. 1196, Catholic Order of Foresters. This lodge was instituted March 4, 1901. The chief ranger was J. H. Krebsbach. The present officers are: Chief ranger, Joseph See; past chief ranger, J. H. Krebsbach; vice chief ranger, J. P. Krebsbach; recording secretary, Michael Schneider; financial secretary, A. J. Krebsbach; treasurer, Michael Krebsbach; trustees, M. P. Smith, John Loecher and Joseph Schaefer.

Adams Lodge, No. 203, A. O. U. W., was instituted December 12, 1895, the officers at that time being: Past master workman, G. W. Dahlquist; master workman, J. W. Carr; foreman, Charles Starksen; overseer, P. H. Carr; recorder, John Griffin; financier, Hubbard Carey; receiver, William Noonan; guide, O. N. Wiste; inside watchman, James Burkey; outside watchman, James Nelson; trustees, Thomas Madden, J. H. Carey and Fred Zwickey. The present officers are: Past master workman, Michael Rooney; master workman, August Rooney; foreman, Joseph Carey; financier, P. H. Carr; receiver, George Rooney; guide, W. J. Carr; inside watchman, Ed. Gurvin; outside watchman, J. M. Keeper. J. W. Carr is delegate to the grand lodge and M. J. Rooney is his alternate.

Adams Court, No. 9313, Modern Woodmen of America. This camp was organized something like a decade ago. The present officers are: Council, M. A. Neus; assistant council, C. E. Bennett; banker, D. V. Smith; clerk, Louie Klima; sentry, M. Epland; watchman, Lars Peterson; escort, E. E. Anderson.

The Commercial Club was organized in 1908 and the present officers are: President, John Gilligan; secretary, William W. Dean; treasurer, J. W. Heimer. The club has a membership of some sixty business men, and has been an important feature in the progress of the village in both a business and a social way.

The Adams Co-operative Creamery Company was organized February 25, 1898, and at once erected a new building. It succeeded a private creamery which had been established several years earlier. The first officers were: President, I. E. Tiegen;

vice president, John Gilligan; secretary, A. R. Anderson; treasurer, James Olson; directors, Ole K. Olson, Anton Kramer and T. Madden. The present officers are: President, P. O. Anderson; vice president, Anton Kramer; secretary, Michael Krebsbach; treasurer, Gus. Jacobson; directors, Lewis Lewison, J. C. Mullenbach and Erick Hanson.

CHAPTER XLI.

FRANKFORD TOWNSHIP.

Location and Soil—Early Settlement—Frankford Village—Bear Creek—Norwegian Settlement—History of Township and Village by Mrs. Ralph E. Crane.

Frankford township includes congressional township 103 north, range 14 west, except the northern tier of sections, which belong to Racine township. It is bounded on the north by Racine, west by Grand Meadow, south by Bennington, and east by Spring Valley, Fillmore county. The surface is rolling, the soil is a dark loam, underlaid with a clay subsoil. It is one of the most fertile and productive townships of Mower county. About one-third of the surface of the township was originally covered with natural timber, while the remainder was prairie. The township is drained by Deer and Bear creeks.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

Many interesting facts cluster around the first and early settlement of this township, which will vividly be brought to mind by the mere mention of those pioneer days. The difficulties attending the first settlement of a county cannot be fully realized, or the hardship and privations that one must pass through to secure a home. The first settler to cast his lot within the borders of this township was Lewis Patchen, who settled on section 13, township 103, range 14, May 30, 1854. He was born in New York state, and came to Iowa in the spring of 1853; remained one year, then moved to Frankford township and preëmpted 160 acres of land. The second pioneer was Byron Woodworth, of New York. He and his family settled on section 22, where he lived for three years, then moved to Nebraska. The third settler was Bartlett Leathers. He settled on section 21. He lived on this place until his death in 1874.

There came in 1855 Samuel Scribner. In 1856 came Charles Lamb, Naaman Goodsell, Philip Howell, Francis Tebout, Griffin Fryer, T. M. Chapman, Samuel Metcalf, James Gorman, John and George Rymal. In 1857 came the Donaldsons, S. Bostwick and W. F. Grummons. Among the other early settlers were S. A. Sherman, D. D. Frazier, Aldrew P. McCabe and George Anchor. Among the prominent citizens of the eighties were S. E. Boyes, G. W. Dean, D. L. Quaackenbush, O. O. Finhart, H. L. Lockwood, D. L. Bush and G. W. Wood. The story of the Norwegian settlement is told elsewhere.

FRANKFORD VILLAGE.

The village of Frankford was situated on the northeast of Frankford township, on sections 13 and 24. It was laid out by Jacob Oleson in 1856. Francis Teabout built the first house and store. Samuel Metcalf built the first wagon shop, and James Gorman the first blacksmith shop. Charles Hanson was the first shoemaker. John and George Rymal built the first grist mill. This was located on Deer creek. This mill property passed from the Rymal Bros. hands to Charles Lamb, who ran it until 1861, when it burned down.

Nothing remains of Frankford village but history. The story of the location of the county seat here and its removal to Austin is told elsewhere.

NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENT.

One of the first buildings erected in the northeastern part of the county is still standing, and is used as a corn crib on the farm of Sever Temanson, in section 5, in Racine township. July 1, 1854, there began arriving in this county a party of Norwegians, numbering thirty-seven in all, who had left the old country to seek their homes in America. In this party were Hans Anderson, Ole O. Finhart, Knud (Hougestven) Nelson, Sever Olson, Ellen Olson, Ole Simonson, Ole O. Hovda, Andrew Anderson Lybeck, Amond Johnson Lindelin, Ole O. Severeud, Amond Johnson Klastole, Hans Julson, Nels Severson Moen and their families. Ole Simpson, the oldest member of the company with a family, was given the first choice of location, and selected the southeast quarter of section 5, once a part of Frankford, now a part of Racine. Mr. Simonson was known as "The Blacksmith," and he it was who erected the building mentioned above. He was assisted in constructing the building by Nels Severson, Andrew Lybeck and Ole Severson. The building was started in July and was finished in time for two other families beside the Simonsons to spend the first winter in it. The shingles were made of bark

and a large fireplace was erected. In 1860 this building was moved to a location thirty rods further south and G. H. Hanson Modahlen moved into this building. November 2, 1854, a baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Nels Severson, the first birth in the neighborhood. This girl, whose name was Julia, died at the age of eighteen, and is buried in the Bear Creek cemetery. June 2, 1856, the Bear Creek Norwegian Lutheran Church was organized in this building, and the first baptismal service was held here, this ordinance being received by six children. In the years 1857-58 three terms of school were held here and also the services of the congregation as well as the prosperous Sunday school for a time.

BEAR CREEK NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHURCH.

(By Pastor A. H. Gjevre.)

The Bear Creek Norwegian Lutheran Congregation is at present connected with "The United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America." This congregation was organized by the Rev. C. L. Clausen, of St. Ansgar, Iowa, in June, 1856. The first members had two years before moved to Bear Creek from Dane county, Wisconsin, having in the years 1850-1852 emigrated to that country from northern and southern Aurdal, in Valdres, Norway. They had in the year 1854 settled down in the eastern part of Mower county, Minnesota, and their first religious meeting here was conducted by Rev. Clausen in a log house on the northern bank of Bear creek, on Syver Temanson's farm. Here follow the names of these old pioneers who at the meeting united themselves together as a Christian congregation for the purpose of having the word of God preached and His holy sacraments administered to them in accordance with the ceremonies and regulations which they had been accustomed to in their old mother church of Norway. They were: Hans Andersen Gamlemeen, Ole O. Finhart, Knut Nilsen Haugstuen, Syver O. Skarshaugen, Ellen O. Skarshaugen, Ole S. Jobraaten, Ole O. Hovda, Anders A. Lybek, Amund J. Lindelien, Ole O. Syverud, Amund J. Klastole, Nils S. Moen, Ole Julsen, Gulik E. Dalen, Jonas Nilsen, Halvor O. Klastole, Aslak Aamot, Christen Tuv. After they were organized they had for a while services by Rev. Fredriksen. Later Rev. Jensen, of Highland Prairie, Minnesota, served them temporarily. Then they had temporary services by Rev. A. C. Preus, of St. Olaf congregation, Olmsted county, Minnesota, and boys and girls reading for confirmation had to go to the St. Olaf congregation to become confirmed, fifty young persons from the whole charge at one time repeating their baptismal covenant at a divine service held under a venerable oak tree in said congregation. In

the year 1861 Rev. Steen, of St. Olaf, became their pastor. He preached to them every seventh Sunday and continued till 1869, when he resigned, and Rev. J. A. Thorsen became his successor and served them every fifth Sunday till 1875. In that same year Rev. O. A. Bu, of Bloomfield congregation, Ostrander, Minnesota, accepted a call from Bear Creek and served them every third Sunday and continued till 1893, when he resigned, and Rev. S. O. Rondestvedt became their first settled pastor, and served them till 1901. Now they had more services than before. In 1901 Rev. Rondestvedt resigned, and Rev. O. G. Belsheim became his successor and served them till 1907, when Rev. A. H. Gjevne was installed as their pastor and spiritual adviser, November 10, 1907. In the year 1870 they decided to build a church edifice for their divine services. The following were chosen as building committee: Ole O. Finhart, secretary; Aslak K. Aamot, treasurer; Amund A. Finhart, Amund J. Lindelien and Lars G. Hansen, directors. In the same year a large and commodious church was erected close by a beautiful grove on the northern side of Bear creek, where they also have a fine and well-kept cemetery. On the twelfth of June, 1887, the church was brought to such a state of perfection that it could be dedicated, and on the day mentioned the dedication service was held with great joy for old and young, the dedicatory sermon being delivered by Prof. M. O. Bockman, assisted by Prof. F. A. Schmidt and Rev. O. A. Bu. After the arrival of Rev. Rondestvedt a fine and stately building was erected as the parsonage close by the church for the pastor and his family. In 1906 a jubilee service was held in commemoration of the organization of the congregation fifty years ago with gratitude and thanksgiving to the Lord for his mercy and gracious guidance. Following the initiative of Lars G. Hanson, the congregation in 1909 bought one and three-quarters of an acre of land lying close by the burial ground to enlarge its size, so that they now have one of the finest cemeteries to be seen out in the country. This congregation is situated in one of the finest and most fertile regions of Mower county, the people are progressive and thrifty, and the Lord has blessed them bodily and spiritually. They have regular services two consecutive Sundays; every third Sunday the pastor has services in Grand Meadow congregation. Bear Creek congregation has a flourishing Sunday school, with able teachers, and besides they have every summer several months of parochial school in order to give the children a thorough knowledge of the principles of the Christian religion, to make them good, pious church members and faithful, loyal citizens of the state. In order to reach this glorious goal the pastor gives all the young people a profound and many-sided instruction in Christianity when they are preparing for confirmation and full mem-

bership in the congregation. There are three Ladies' Aid societies in this congregation, with enterprising members working for the welfare of people at home and abroad. There are many able men and women in this congregation, too numerous to mention. As members worthy of special note are the two brothers, H. O. Hanson and Lars G. Hanson, who have done this congregation valuable services. Bear Creek congregation has 375 souls, 258 confirmed and 107 voting members.

Grand Meadow Norwegian Lutheran Congregation. This little congregation is to a great extent a daughter congregation of the Bear Creek congregation, because the majority of the members have formerly belonged to Bear Creek church and moved to Grand Meadow. But they have still part in the cemetery of Bear Creek church and bury their departed dear ones there. They have a fine, commodious church edifice, with regular services every third Sunday, as well as a flourishing Sunday school and parochial school. The members are enterprising, intelligent people, comprising some of the leading business men in Grand Meadow. The ladies have an Aid society working for the welfare of their fellow men at home and abroad. The number of souls is 153; confirmed, 84; voting members, 23.

Anders H. Gjevre was born June 9, 1852, in Vang, in Valdres, Norway; emigrated to America in the year 1871 and settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he went to the English common school the first winter in order to learn the language of this country. He came to this country for the purpose of acquiring a good education, and therefore in the fall of the next year, 1872, he entered Luther College, at Decorah, Iowa. Having finished the classical course he graduated from that institution in the spring of 1878 with the degree of B. A. In the fall of the same year he entered the theoretical or scientific department of a Lutheran theological seminary in Madison, Wisconsin, and graduated as candidate of theology from that institution in the spring of 1881. November 10 of the same year he was ordained a pastor on a call from two congregations in Swift and Big Stone counties in Minnesota and one congregation at Wilmot, South Dakota; served the last one one year and the two first three years. He resigned on account of weak health and moved to Renville county, Minnesota, where he served a congregation one year. In the year 1886 he accepted a call from three congregations in Deer county, Wisconsin. While there he desired to make more advancement in the Hebrew language, and therefore he entered a correspondence course of Hebrew under the guidance of the great specialist, Prof. Dr. W. R. Harper, president of the University of Chicago, and wrote a dissertation on the prophet Haggai for which he later received the degree of M. A. from his alma mater, Luther

College, Decorah, Iowa. In the year 1889 he made a visit to his fatherland, Norway, and while there he also found his partner for life, Berit H. Leine, born April 11, 1864. In the same majestic old church where they both had been baptized and confirmed they became united in the holy bonds of matrimony on April 8, 1890, and some weeks later they left the fatherland to enter upon their duties in the congregations in Wisconsin. Mr. Gjevre continued his work in Wisconsin till 1893, when he accepted a call from four congregations in and around Fertile, Minnesota, where he served for seven and one-half years with the exception of a few months in the winter of 1897-1898, when he served as instructor in Hebrew exegesis and Old Testament interpretation at the theological seminary of the United Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Being a lover of the Jewish people and their language and of the Semitic languages generally, he in the year 1900 accepted a call as missionary to the Jews in Greater New York and worked directly for the salvation of the Jews for two and one-half years, testifying early and late about Jesus as the true Messiah. To qualify himself still more for efficient work among the Jews he took a postgraduate course at Columbia University in Rabbinical Hebrew and studied also Syriac and Arabic and Oriental history under the guidance of the eminent specialists Dr. Richard Gottlieb, Dr. John Dynely Prince and Dr. Abraham Yohannan, a learned Syrian from Persia. At the request of these doctors he wrote a dissertation on "Analogy in the Semitic Languages," a scientific production which the professors recognized as being of a high order and required to be printed and made accessible to the scientific world, but which the author has not been able to print for lack of means. He liked the work among the Jews but on account of sickness in his family he had to give up his direct mission work in New York and accepted a call as pastor for three congregations in Palo Alto county, Iowa, where he began his work in April, 1903, and continued there till October, 1907, when he accepted a call from Bear Creek and Grand Meadow congregations in Mower county, Minnesota, and moved there and was installed as pastor in those churches, his present field of labor, November 10, 1907. Of his literary printed work may be mentioned the following: In 1906 he translated from the ancient Syriac language "The Doctrine of the Apostle Addai," with introduction and explanatory notes, a very interesting and valuable work from the earliest days of Christianity. In 1910 he revised a great historical work, "History of the Syrian Nation and the Old Evangelical-Apostolic Church of the East from Remote Antiquity to the Present Time," a work likewise translated from the Syriac. And besides he has been a prolific writer for several periodicals on doctrinal and missionary subjects. The

marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Gjevre has been blessed with nine children, of whom three died in their infancy and six are living, namely: Maria Gjevre, born January 28, 1891, in Tanun parsonage, Door county, Wisconsin; Theodore Gjevre, born October 9, 1893, in Fertile, Minnesota; Anna Gjevre, born April 26, 1895, in Fertile, Minnesota; Hulda Gjevre, born April 13, 1898, in Fertile, Minnesota; Gottfried Gjevre, born July 30, 1900, in Fertile, Minnesota; Bertha Gjevre, born June 18, 1905, in Lost Island parsonage, Palo Alto county, Iowa.

FRANKFORD TOWNSHIP.

(By Mrs. Ralph E. Crane.)

Frankford township is bounded on the north by Racine, on the east by Spring Valley, Fillmore county, on the south by Bennington, and on the west by Grand Meadow. It includes congressional township 103 north, range 14 west, except the northern tier of sections which belong to Racine. Some political move is responsible for this transaction, as well as the removal of sections from the north of Racine and Pleasant Valley townships. A small portion of Frankford township has also been annexed to Grand Meadow village. But notwithstanding the loss of county seat and territory, Frankford township is one of the most prosperous and progressive townships in Mower county. Nowhere else is the sky so blue, the grass so green, the water so pure, as just right here. The soil is the best in the world, a dark rich loam underlaid with clay subsoil and limestone rock. It is drained by Deer and Bear creeks. About one-third of the surface was originally covered with natural timber, the remainder being prairie land. A state road divides Frankford township into two equal parts, passing through from west to east. This road was selected by the county commissioners at Austin in the fall of 1910.

In the summer of 1870 the Southern Minnesota division of the C., M. & St. Paul R. R. was built through this township. From Grand Meadow its direction is south of east, leaving the township one and one-half miles south of state road. The Chicago Great Western railroad passes through a small portion of the northeast corner of section 12. Two rural mail routes traverse this township. Route No. 1 out of Grand Meadow was platted in the spring of 1900. A. J. Stewart made his first trip June 2 of that year, having been appointed first carrier on this route. This position he filled until a short time before his death, a few years later. Mr. Stewart was taken to Hamilton for burial. Along the route over which his body was borne mail boxes were draped in mourning, as a silent tribute of the esteem in which he was held by the patrons he so ably and kindly served. Mr. Stewart was

succeeded by Wm. Rice, who is still carrier on this route. In replatting routes a year or so later rural route No. 2 out of Racine was established. Bert Thoma is the present efficient and obliging carrier. These two routes meet and separate at Frankford Center. There are three telephone lines in this township. The Tri-State line follows the main route between Spring Valley and Grand Meadow. It was rushed through the summer of 1905. The People's Telephone Company, of Fillmore county, connecting Spring Valley with Racine, serves patrons along its route living in the east part of the township. The first line out of Grand Meadow connected the homes of C. F. Greening, of Grand Meadow, and W. D. Lockwood, of Frankford. C. F. Greening was first owner and manager of the Home Telephone Company. The present organization was effected through the untiring efforts of Martin Axness, who has ever since served as its general manager. W. H. Goodsell is president of this company. The first public telephone was installed in the residence of R. E. Crane, December 26, 1898, and later that same day one in the home of S. E. Boyes. L. C. Lindsley was the third subscriber, followed by W. H. Goodsell, and later by others until today there is scarcely a residence in this township but contains this useful means of quick and satisfactory communication, not only with our neighbors but with the outside world as well. Hot water plants are being installed into our homes and wires laid for electric lighting. Auto cars are no longer a curiosity. We can scarcely realize that our fathers were making weary journeys to Winona and McGregor, Iowa, with ox teams to market their produce, at prices that would not have met expenses on the way had they not carried their rations with them. There are still witnesses who can testify to having hauled wheat to these markets and sold the same for fifty or sixty cents per bushel. This same wheat, be it remembered, was cradled and bound by hand. Wages paid per day for harvest help was very high, at least \$3.50 being paid. Reapers and mowers were unknown here until about the year 1867. The McCormick self-raking reaper and the John P. Manny reaper and mower combined with dropper were first in use.

The township organization was effected on the eleventh day of May, 1858, and the following officers elected: Board of supervisors, S. Bostwick, chairman; Manoah Delling, J. J. Rymal, associates; town clerk, Stephen A. Sherman; justices of the peace, Philip Howell, B. F. Langworthy; assessor, Naaman Goodsell; collector, George Rymal; constables, George Rymal, Andrew P. McCabe; overseer of the poor, George Anker. The first election held in Frankford was at the store of Francis Teabout. Within memory of the present generation it had always been in the bar-

room of Lewis Patchen's tavern, until the erection of a town hall on section 21 in the center of the township in 1890. The present officers are: Board of supervisors, S. P. Hambleton, chairman; Carl Skogstad, George Loucks, associates; town clerk, Otto Stenseth; treasurer, W. H. Goodsell; assessor, S. H. Simonson. Ralph E. Crane and L. G. Hanson are justices of the peace. L. Y. Tebay and John Hovda are constables. W. H. Goodsell is county commissioner from the second district of Mower county. R. E. Crane is state representative for the north district of Mower county.

Historical. The village of Frankford (little more than a memory now) is situated on the northeast of Frankford township, on sections 13 and 24. It was laid out by Jacob Olson in 1856. Francis Teabout built the first house and store. Francis Teabout went by the name of Frank Teabout; it was for him that the township was named. Samuel Metcalf built the first wagon shop and James Gorman the first blacksmith shop. Charles Hanson was the first shoemaker. George and John Rymal built the first grist mill. This was located on Deer creek, that runs through the village. The mill property passed from the Rymal Bros. to Charles Lamb, who ran it until 1861, when it burned down. The first settler to cast his lot within the borders of Frankford township was Lewis Patchen, a native of New York state. He settled on section 13, township 103, range 14, the thirtieth day of May, 1854. He built the first hotel, which remained occupied until a few years ago, when it was torn down. A postoffice was established in 1856. Lewis Patchen was postmaster nearly the whole time of its existence. His widow served in this capacity until the advent of the rural routes, when it was discontinued. T. M. Chapman and Charles Lamb each held the position for short periods. The first lawyer was Wm. Covill. The first physician was Erastus Belden, who remained there until his death, in 1865. The first death in the township was in the family of Mr. Howell. The first marriage in the township was performed by Squire Howell at the house of D. D. Frazier. The parties were Cyrus Titus and Miss Mary Beadle. The first birth in the township was Marion, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Patchen, born March 13, 1855.

The first religious society organized was the Free Will Baptist. They built a church on section 24 in the fall of 1857, which they continued to use until it burned down in 1871. Elder Reeves was a well known preacher in this denomination. Meetings were held in this church also by other denominations. Elder Soule was one of the best beloved pastors of the Methodist denomination. The first religious services held were in Lewis Patchen's house in 1856. The village and township cemetery is located on section 24.

It contains two acres and was platted in 1856. This silent city of the dead contains so many of our early pioneers that it is easier to enumerate the living than the dead. Many have lived their lives here, others have been brought back by loving hands and buried near their loved ones who had preceded them to the great beyond from whence no traveler ever returns. One of the last of this number was G. W. Wood, who died in Pennsylvania, August 29, 1910. Mrs. Wood was brought back from Indiana in 1905. They settled in Frankford village in 1857.

CHAPTER XLII.

PLEASANT VALLEY TOWNSHIP.

Location and Area — Early Settlement — Organization — First Events—Religious—Town Hall and Cemetery.

With the exception of the northern tier of sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, the township above named comprises the territory of congressional township 104 north, range 15. The greater part of this district is prairie land. There was, however, plenty of timber at an early day to furnish building material for the first settlers. Sections 7, 18 and 19 in the west part of the town, and sections 11 and 12 in the northeast, may be said to have been well wooded. The surface in the eastern part is undulating and affords good drainage; the soil there is a darkish loam, with a substratum of clay. The western part is gently rolling, the soil is a dark alluvial deposit, slightly sprinkled with clay. All parts are well adapted to farming purposes. The town is drained by branches of Root river, one of which having its source in section 22 flows in a north by east direction through sections 14 and 11, leaving the county in the last named section. The other cuts across the northwestern corner of the township, leaving it in the center of the northern boundary line of section 7.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The title of pioneer of Pleasant Valley may well be accorded to Sylvester Hills, who arrived here with his son Byron in 1854, when as yet the land was unbroken, and made a claim on section 11, going back, however, to spend the winter in Wisconsin. In the spring of 1855 he returned to Minnesota, bringing his family, and accompanied by a party of three men, named Robinson,

Leavitt and Sherwin, who settled in Olmsted county. The journey was made with ox teams, wearily plodding by day, camping by night. Mr. Hills soon built a good log house, 22x32 feet, and 14 feet high, on his claim, which remained his home until the time of his death, in March, 1862. Pleasant Valley was named by him from a village in the eastern part of New York, in which he had formerly lived.

The second settlement within the present limits of the township was made in June, 1857, by John Rowley, Robert Reed and Russell Hoag. Rowley settled on section 30, living in his emigrant wagon till November, when he had completed his house. Reed settled on section 7, and lived to see the county well developed. He died in 1884. Hoag first settled on section 12, remaining but a short time, and removed to an adjoining section in Olmsted county. Soon afterward came David Wells, D. S. Ketchum, R. C. Penny, A. H. Bogart, James Grogger, D. M. Wells and Andrew Howard. T. F. Wallace and the Hoppins came in 1860. A. E. Peck, Luther S. Bates, W. L. Stiles, W. J. Drake, A. W. Thornhill and A. J. Johnson were among the prominent late settlers.

ORGANIZATION.

The town was organized at a meeting held at the house of David Wells, May 11, 1858. R. C. Penny was elected chairman of the meeting, and Sylvester Hills moderator. The following officers were elected: Supervisors, Delazon S. Ketchum, chairman; Byron Hills and John Rowley; clerk, A. H. Bogart; assessor, Robert Reed; collector, James Grogger; overseer of the poor, R. C. Penny; constables, D. M. Wells and James Grogger; justices of the peace, Andrew Howard and Sylvester Hills. At a meeting of the board June 18, 1858, Byron Hills was appointed collector and constable in place of James Grogger, who failed to give bonds. At the second annual meeting, April 5, 1859, at the house of David Wells, John Rowley was elected moderator. After a few preliminary remarks by the town clerk, A. H. Bogart, the following resolutions were presented and unanimously carried: Resolved, That section 2, of article 11, of the states of Minnesota, amended so as to read "one dollar and fifty cents per day" for services of the town clerk, assessor and overseer of the poor; also any other officer of town, instead of one dollar, as it now reads; also eighteen cents for copying 100 words, instead of six cents, as it now reads.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first marriage in Pleasant Valley was that of Lydia Hills and Albert Barlow, in the spring of 1856. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's parents by Los Dutton.

The first death was that of Nettie Hills, daughter of a Mr. Hills, in the winter of 1860, at the age of two years.

RELIGIOUS.

The German Lutheran church of Pleasant Valley was organized in 1879. A church edifice 22x32 feet and 16 feet high was erected the same year on the southwest quarter of section 13. Rev. Mr. Nichols, of Rochester, was the first pastor.

The Hoppin church, so called, of the Methodist denomination, is located in this township and is an important feature in the life of the town.

TOWN HALL AND CEMETERY.

In June, 1870, five acres of land, situated in the southeast quarter of section 15, the property of L. S. Bates, was purchased by the town, at \$10 per acre, for a burial ground. It is now known as the Pleasant Valley cemetery. A town hall was built in 1867, being accepted July 16 of that year. It stands on the northwest quarter of section 22. In size the building is 22x40 feet and 14 feet high. Its cost was \$465. The site was presented to the town by Thomas H. Armstrong, of High Forest.

CHAPTER XLIII.

CLAYTON TOWNSHIP.

Location and Advantages — Early Settlement — Organization — Name — Cemetery.

Clayton township comprises congressional township 102 north, and range 15. It is bounded on the north by Grand Meadow township, east by Bennington township, south and west by Lodi and Marshall townships. The soil is a dark rich loam, which is adapted to all kinds of grasses and cereals. Deer creek takes its rise in section 9, running in a northerly direction to section 2, from which section it enters Grand Meadow township.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John Johnson settled in the southwestern part of the township in 1864. He was then followed by Hiram Thompson. This was one of the townships whose lands were thrown onto the market at

an early day and bought by speculators, the result of which was that the settlement was greatly retarded, and but few settled in the town until about the year 1870, when a good share of the land owned by speculators was bought up and placed under cultivation, but many buying land on time failed (owing to failure of crops) to pay, when the lands again fell into the hands of the speculator.

ORGANIZATION.

The township was organized June 20, 1873, and the following officers elected: Supervisors, W. Z. Clayton, chairman; W. F. Mathews, John O. Wold; clerk, Charles B. Kennedy; treasurer, Sever O. Quom; justices of the peace, J. B. Miller, S. Harolson; constables, J. W. Powers, O. C. Lather.

NAME.

The township derived its name from W. Z. Clayton, owner of a large tract of land in the township. He was a native of Maine. He had lived a few years in Winona, and for several years spent the summer months in the township.

CEMETERY.

There is but one cemetery in the township, which is under the management of the Norwegian Lutheran society, the location of which is in the northwest quarter of section 31, and contains one acre.

CHAPTER XLIV.

MARSHALL TOWNSHIP.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—Organization.

Marshall township comprises congressional township 102 north, range 16 west. It is bounded on the north by Dexter, east by Clayton, south by Adams and west by the town of Windom. The surface is generally quite level and almost the entire township is composed of prairie. The only natural grasses were found in sections 3, 4, 34, 35 and 36. The town is truly rural, there being no village or hamlet within its borders. The town is drained by Rose creek and the Little Cedar river. One branch of Rose creek heads in section 11 of this town. One branch of the Little Cedar has its source in the northwest quarter

of section 16; another branch in sections 26 and 27; another branch comes from the town of Clayton, cuts across the corner of section 36. There are some small lakes in the township that cover from one-eighth to one-half an acre of ground. Two of these lakes are to be found on section 16, another on section 21. The soil is a rich dark loam.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement in the town was made in the spring of 1856, by Helge Errickson, a native of Norway, who came here from Wisconsin, and settled on the west half of the southwest quarter of section 36. Here he built the first house in the town. It was of logs, covered with shacks, and had a puncheon floor. He made his home here until 1871, when he sold his farm and moved to Otter Tail county. In 1857 John Osmunsen, also a native of Norway, came from Wisconsin and settled on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 36. He also built a log house. It was in this humble abode that the first white child in the town was born. About 1860 Ole Tollefson and Gilbert Anderson came and settled on section 36. They were both natives of Norway and improved farms here. Tollefson made this his home until the time of his death. Stark Peterson came in 1865.

The first settlement in the north part of the town was made in 1857 by Mahlon Parritt and his son Dexter. They located on the northwest quarter of section 3. Dexter preëmpted 160 acres of land in that section. In the fall of that year they removed to section 33, town 103 north, range 15 west, now known as the town of Dexter. The father made his home there until the time of his death. The son, Dexter, in whose honor the town was named, lived there until 1882, when he returned to his original settlement in Marshall. The second settler in the north part of the town was Michael Luney, a native of Ireland, who came here from Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1861. He had previously preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 5, and the north half of the southwest quarter of the same section. He remained here but two years, when he returned to Iowa. Amasa N. Converse, a native of Jefferson county, York State, came after the war and settled on the northeast quarter of section 3. He was an enterprising man and started a cheese factory here. He afterward bought grain at Dexter. While living here he was married to a daughter of D. G. Pearce. In 1875 he moved to Jackson county, where he died a short time later. William Godard came with Mr. Converse and settled on the northwest quarter of section 2, where he lived but a few years, then sold and moved to the lumber regions, and later to central Iowa. This was one of the townships of land that were thrown onto the

market in an early day, and was bought by speculators, who held the land at a high figure, and thus retarded the settlement. Governor Marshall purchased four large tracts of land in the township. In 1868 he commenced improvements on this land. He sold it a few years later to W. H. Dean.

The first white child born was Hannah, daughter of John and Syrena Osmunsen. She afterward married Andrew Wiste.

ORGANIZATION.

This was organized as a separate township in 1870. At a meeting held June 6 of that year, at the house of M. L. Corbitt, the following officers were elected: Supervisors, W. L. Godard (chairman), W. M. Corbitt and Gilbert Anderson; clerk, A. N. Converse; treasurer, A. M. Converse; assessor, G. W. Corbitt; justices of the peace, G. W. Corbitt and Stark Peterson; constables, Henry Stockwell and John O. Wold.

At the annual election held in March, 1871, the following resolutions were presented and adopted: First, That we regard our town as in its infancy, being the youngest of her sisters in this county. Second, That we approve of the law changing the time of holding the annual meeting from April to March. Third, That we are in favor of and approve of changing the name from Beach to Marshall. Fourth, That the interest of education, churches, schoolhouses and public highways shall not be neglected or overlooked in our town. Fifth, That we favor moral, temperance men for office. Sixth, That we know of no organization that would do more, or as much, to advance the welfare of and prosperity of this county, as the organization of a monthly fair. Wherefore, we would suggest, recommend and promise to aid in establishing a monthly fair, to be organized and held at Austin—once in each month. Eighth, That we do not approve of woman suffrage yet for a while. Resolved, in regard to state affairs: First, That we are sick and tired of so much state legislation on the bond question. Second, That while we look upon insolvency and poverty as misfortunes, we look upon repudiation as wicked and shameful. Third, That if the bonds of the state were intended to be good when made, they should be paid to the letter.”

The following named held office in the early days: M. L. Corbitt, W. M. Corbitt, G. W. Phillips, J. M. Ray, James O. Wold, Fred Ray, J. A. Olson, Ole T. Throveson, Ole Anderson, Samson Hanson, Asher Herick, Knud Olson, John Osmunsen, James Ever-son, E. F. Nelson, Hans Anderson, A. G. Anderson, Swan Ander-son, Peter Johnson, J. K. Johnson, August Anderson, Ole S.

Forde, John Peterson, B. G. Haugen, L. G. Phillips, Anton Asper, James Olson, Fred Rolf, Stark Peterson.

Churches and church cemeteries are located in sections 4 and 8.

ELKTON.

Elkton is an incorporated village of some one hundred inhabitants, and is located in Marshall township. It has a creamery, a hotel, public school, stores and other industries. The village was platted in section 1, township 102, range 16, January 25, 1887, by W. E. Richardson and Frank A. Day.

CHAPTER XLV.

UDOLPHO TOWNSHIP.

Location and Area—Early Settlement—First Events—Religious—Accidental Deaths—Origin of Name—Cemetery—Madison Village—Red Oak Grove Settlement and Church.

Udolpho comprises township 104, range 18, and is bounded by Dodge county on the north, by Waltham on the east, Lansing and Freeborn county on the south and west, being the northwest corner township in the county. The Red Cedar river enters the town from Dodge county, in section 4, runs in a southerly and southeasterly direction through sections 8, 16, 21, 22, 27, 26, and makes its exit from section 35. Timber in an early day was quite plentiful on either side of the river, which was mostly cut by the early settlers for building purposes. There is, at the present time, some second growth timber in the township. East and west of the Cedar is a fine prairie, with a black loam, underneath which is a clay subsoil.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

William Tullis is said to be the first settler in Udolpho township. He settled on the northeast quarter of section 21, in February, 1855. He built a log cabin 14x14, and covered it with sods. His family consisted of wife and four children. They remained on the claim during that summer, but returned to Iowa, from whence they came, to winter. They afterwards returned to the township, remaining a few years, when they returned to Indiana. The next to settle in the township were Thomas Richardson and Richard and William Green, brothers. Thomas Richardson settled in section 16. He was from St. Lawrence county, New York.

He is now dead. Richard Green settled in section 9, William Green in section 15. Richard lived in the town until the breaking out of the rebellion, when he enlisted, went south, and was killed at the battle of Nashville. William enlisted, went south, served three years, and returned to the township, remaining until about 1874, when he removed to Todd county, Minnesota.

In June, 1855, an addition was made to the little settlement, by several families of Norwegians. They were mostly well to do farmers from Rock and Dane counties, Wisconsin. They brought with them quite a stock. Knute Olson settled in section 31. Andrew Anderson settled in section 9. The story of the Red Oak Grove settlement is told elsewhere. Solomon Wilcox settled in the township in the spring of 1855. Ole and Bennett Christianson and their parents also came in 1855.

Ole Christianson was born in Norway, September 8, 1835. He came to America with his parents in 1846, and settled in Wisconsin, where they remained until the spring of 1855, when they removed to Mower county and settled on section 19 in the town of Udolpho, where Ole Christianson still lives. Bennett Christianson was born in Norway November 11, 1843. His parents emigrated to America in 1846, and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1855, when they came to Mower county and settled on section 19, where the father died in 1874. Bennett is still living on the same place. Andrew Anderson, one of the pioneers of Mower county, settled in section 9 in 1855. He erected a small log cabin on his claim, which he covered with prairie sods. He lived in this house about two years, when he moved the cabin a short distance, which he rebuilt and covered with a shingle roof, making it more comfortable for a dwelling. They lived in this house until 1878, when the old house gave way to a commodious frame house. He is now dead. Guttorm Olson also settled in section 19 in 1855.

John Day settled in section 22, in August, 1856. He was from Iowa here. He lived in the township until 1877, when he sold out to B. E. Stimson and returned to Iowa. Orasmus D. Rhoades came in August, 1856, and settled in section 22, town of Udolpho, where he entered land and built a house. He enlisted in 1863 in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Infantry Volunteers. He went south with his regiment and was taken prisoner at the battle of Guntown, Tenn. He was first sent to Andersonville, and from there to Milan, where he died of starvation, October 20, 1864. O. J. Rhoades came to Mower county with his parents. Milton McCall came to Mower county in 1856 and pre-empted a claim in section 34, in Udolpho township, on which he commenced the erection of a log house, getting it up as high as the windows. It, however, was burned by prairie fires that fall.

Mr. McCall returned to his home in New York, and April 20 started for his new home in Minnesota, with his eldest son, leaving his wife behind. After leaving Chicago, his son, while asleep, as supposed, walked off the cars and was killed. Mr. McCall returned with the dead body of his son to his old home, which he had so recently left, so full of hope for the future. After the burial of his son, Mr. McCall immediately returned with his family to Mower county, and lived several years on their old homestead, after which they removed to Lansing village, where Mr. McCall died. Andrew Ingleson came in June, 1856, and settled in the northeast quarter of section 4, in the town of Udolpho. He erected a small log house, in which he lived ten years, when he built a good log house on the southeast corner of the same section. He is now dead. A Mr. Ells located in section 35, where he lived about two years, when he left the country. A Mr. Bigley settled in section 26. He had a family, and lived in the township until 1863, when he removed to Lansing township, where he died the next year. His wife, with the family, returned to New York state. Benjamin Vaughan, a brother of Alanson A. Vaughan, came in August, 1856, and lived in the township until 1872. He moved away and is now dead.

During the fall of 1856 there arrived a party of nine men, some of them with their families. One family was from New York state, and the others from Iowa. C. N. Stimson was a native of Vermont, moved to New York, married, and with his wife and son and daughter started for the west, bringing a span of horses and their family goods. They arrived in Chatfield, Minn., in the spring of 1856 and there spent the summer. In the fall they were joined by a party from Iowa, and all came to Udolpho. C. N. Stimson settled on section 25. Burt E. Stimson, his son, afterward a prominent citizen, was then a boy of twelve years. Albert Stimson, a brother of Charles N., also settled in section 25. He afterward sold out to E. J. Stimson, enlisted in the war, served his term, was taken ill, and was lost sight of in New York. It is believed that he died in a hospital. George Pierson, another of the party, lived here a short time and then went back to Iowa. Nathaniel Reed also settled in section twenty-five. H. C. Rogers, whose biography is found elsewhere, settled in section 24. Durand settled in section 25, and afterward went back to Iowa. Roe settled in section 11 and afterward went back to New York state.

Churchill settled in section 12 and later went back to Iowa. Pratt settled in section 13, later started for Pike's Peak, and was never heard of afterward. During the same year, but not with this party, Charles Day came in and took up a claim. Later Henry and E. J. Stimson came to this vicinity. C. N. Stimson

and his family first lived in a sod house. Three years later they erected a plank house and this stood as a residence until 1886. Timothy B. Andrews also came in 1856.

The Nellers came in June, 1856, and consisted of Francis A., and son, Sebastian, Francis Neller, a nephew, Joseph Neller, another nephew. They are of German descent. They came here from Jefferson county, Wisconsin. Francis A. Neller, Sr., pre-empted the southwest quarter of section 14, Sebastian the northwest quarter of the same section. Francis Neller settled in section 15. Joseph Neller settled in section 23.

Seth S. Washburn came in 1857 and settled on the northwest quarter of section 17. Henry Dennis came about this time and settled in section 12. Edward Bassett came in 1857, went back after his family, and in 1858 located in section 21. Edson Bassett was brought here with his parents as an infant. John Tuckerson came in 1858 and settled in section 30.

Others prominent in the affairs of the town in the early days were: Sever Ingoalson, Ingval Ingoalson, Edwin Richards, Peter A. Peterson, Orlando C. LaBar, Peter Larson, N. N. Hagna, Buxx Maxwell, Robert Lee, Nels K. Goodwin, F. A. Carll and Knute Olson.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first couple to be married in the township was Ed. Sperry and Polly E. Andrews. They were married about 1857. They lived together but a short time. The first birth was that of Nancy, third daughter of Thomas R. Richardson. She was born June 10, 1855. She became the wife of Robert Lee. The first death was that of Mrs. Mark Green, who died in June, 1856, and was buried under a burr oak tree on the Green place. Another early death was that of the wife of Mr. Caton, an old settler of the township. She died in the winter of 1856. She was buried in section 23.

The next death in the township was a brother of Ed Sperry, who had traded guns with an immigrant. He had it laid away in the bottom of his wagon. While pulling it out to show his brother, it was accidentally discharged, the shot taking effect in his thigh, which cut an artery. Not being able to stop the flow of blood, he soon bled to death.

The first breaking was done by Thomas R. Richardson in 1855. On this breaking he raised about three hundred bushels of corn, and some potatoes. He sold what corn he had to spare, measuring it in a common tin boiler; for each measure, he received \$1. He was not so fortunate with his potatoes. When he supposed they were large enough to use, on going for a mess found that they had been dug by Indian squaws. Mr.

Richardson complained to the chief, who said they (the squaws) had done wrong. Later in the fall Mr. Richardson was sent for by the chief to visit his camp. On his arrival was shown fourteen elk, and was told to take his winter's meat, in payment for his potatoes, which offer Mr. Richardson was glad to accept.

RELIGIOUS.

The first religious services held in the township were held on the east side of the Cedar river, at neighboring houses, and at the old log schoolhouse, until after the new schoolhouse was built, when Rev. George Stokes, an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, organized a class. He was a resident of the township, an Englishman by birth. He lived in the township until about 1877, when he went to Utah territory. Rev. Mr. Stokes was the first to hold services in a number of towns in the county. He was well liked by those who knew him. He died in the town of Udolpho, at the home of O. C. La Bar, October 27, 1885.

Free Will Baptist church was organized in the spring of 1858, by Rev. Hiram Miller, from Chautauqua county, New York. He remained here a short time, when he went to Dodge county, and afterwards to Olmsted county. Meetings were held at the house of O. D. Rhoades in section 22. The members of this organization were Benjamin Vaughan and wife, Charles Hunter and wife, John Dunton and wife, Mrs. O. D. Rhoades. Meetings were held once in two weeks for about a year, when the organization was removed to Lansing.

The story of the Red Rock settlement is told elsewhere.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS.

This accident was related by John L. Neller: George Chapman came to Minnesota in the summer of 1856 and settled in the town of Udolpho, residing with his father-in-law on section 16 for about two years, when he purchased the east half of the southeast quarter of section 8, of that township. On April 14, 1859, he went up the Red Cedar river, which at that season was very high. He went for the purpose of killing ducks. He crossed the river at or near Mr. Iverson's house, on foot logs, there being no wagon bridges at that early day. While coming down the stream on the east side, he was overtaken by a terrific snow storm of a severity since unknown in this latitude. As he did not reach home that day a party of his neighbors went out in search of him. I was among the number. We found his dead body where least expected, about fifty or sixty rods from his father-in-law's house, the river being between the house and

the spot where he was found. His limbs were badly frozen, but his breast was still warm with his life's blood. He had eight ducks in his hunting pouch. We found where he had undertaken to build a fire by placing some dry weeds in the hollow of an old basswood stump and discharging both barrels of his shotgun. But it had failed to ignite and he then placed the gun on one side of the stump and sat against the opposite side of the stump himself, as if for shelter and rest. It was the opinion of those who were knowing to the facts that he was not fully dead when first found, and that had proper care been exercised he might have been restored. He left a wife and small children in destitute circumstances.

F. A. Carll and wife, living just above Lansing, were burned to death in their home on Saturday night, March 15, 1890. Mr. Carll settled on section 34 in Udolpho township in 1865 on a farm he purchased of Milton McCall, at which time there was a small log house on the farm, in which the family lived about five years, after which Mr. Carll built a commodious frame residence in which he was burned. Mr. Carll was a native of Maine, born in May, 1814.

ORIGIN OF NAME.

Udolpho township was named at the first town meeting by Col. Henry C. Rogers, the circumstances of which were as follows: The voters of the township were composed of several nationalities, each expressing themselves in their own language, no two agreeing, until the question of name came up when they were as far apart on this as on other things. It was finally left to Colonel Rogers, who said call it "Udolpho," which was done. The name was suggested by reading a work entitled "The Mysteries of Udolpho."

CEMETERY.

Udolpho cemetery is located in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 21. It was purchased in February, 1862, by Francis A. Neller at the time his wife died. Hers was the first burial. Later the people of the township took an interest in the cemetery, and each paid a proportionate share of the cost. The land was purchased by Mr. Neller from Soloman Wilcox, and Mrs. Wilcox, who signed the joint deed, was the second to be buried in the cemetery, her death taking place in March, 1862.

MADISON.

The village of Madison was located on the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 21. Below is given a sketch

of Madison, written by E. Bassett some years ago: "The village of Madison was platted by Warren Brown, a former resident of Baraboo, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1856 or spring of 1857. He built a fair-sized building and put in some \$1,500 worth of goods. He did a fair business for nearly a year. In that time he built a house to live in, established a postoffice and was made postmaster. He sold several lots and blocks, but finally branched out too far and lost all, after which he went farther west. During this time four men, under the firm name of Moody & Co., built a large house, 28x40, with an addition fourteen feet wide the whole length of one side. They used the building for a hotel. They did a livery business for a short time. They had the postoffice reestablished, and boarded a large lot of railroad hands. They were finally left without pay, which left them in a hard spot. The company broke up. The town a failure, Moody took his family and went back to Massachusetts. Others left in various ways. My place lying alongside of the town plat, the postoffice was thrown into my hands. I kept it for twelve years and a half. When the railway was built, the company would make no arrangements to stop. I became wearied with going to Lansing to supply the office, and threw it up. The vacated buildings went to rack and ruin, and were sold for any sum that was possible to get. The buildings were all taken away and the village plat converted into a wheat field." Madison was platted, according to the records, September 3, 1857, in section 21, township 104, range 18, the proprietors being Warren A. Brown, Quincy A. Truesdell, David S. B. Mollison and Albert Galloway.

Samuel Hatley came to Madison in the spring of 1857, from Indiana. He built a log house for a residence, also a shop, in which he worked at blacksmithing. He worked at his trade here about three years, when he removed to Lansing, where he remained until about 1872, when he went to the northern part of the state, where he died.

RED OAK GROVE.

(By L. O. Aldal.)

Red Oak Grove is a name which has been applied from the earliest days to the country in the southwest part of Udolpho township, the name originating from a fine grove of red oaks which was a conspicuous feature of the landscape in that locality. The earliest settlers in this vicinity were Norwegians who came in 1855. The list of these pioneers as gathered by L. O. Aldal, is as follows: Christian Rukke, Knut Rukke, Nels Iverson Venaass, Guttorm Hillson, Thore Bergo, Anders Melhovd and Guttorm Olson Engen. In 1856, according to the same authority, came

Tollef Sommerhaugen, Ole Sommerhaugen, Christian Johnson Rukke, Helge Dokken, Jens Bodalen, Knut B. Bakken, Syver B. Bakken, Bennet B. Benson, Ole Trondson, Erik E. Basness, Johannes T. Opstedal, Simon Olson and others. The following history of the Red Oak Grove church is from the pen of L. O. Aldal, who is secretary of that body.

Red Oak Grove Congregation. This congregation receives and adheres to the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the revealed word of God, and the only rule of faith and life; and to the confession of the Evangelical Lutheran church; the Old Symbol; the Apostolical, Nicean and Athanasian creeds; the unaltered Augsburg confession and Luther's small catechism as a correct and faithful exposition of the divine word of God. The congregation belongs to and is connected with the United Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church of America. That denomination was organized in 1890, and it aims to include all Norwegian Evangelical Lutherans of America, as the name indicates.

The Norwegian settlements and church work in this vicinity, including Mower, Freeborn, Winnebago, Faribault and Waseca counties, are a direct result and extension of Claus Lauritzen Clausen's colony of St. Ansgar, Iowa. The Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church work and history in America start with Pastor C. L. Clausen. He came from the old country when about twenty-three years old, to Muskego, Wisconsin, August 8, 1843. He was ordained to be a minister, October 18, 1843, by a German pastor, organized a congregation in Muskego, and held services in Even Heg's new barn, where he confirmed the first class, and married the first two couples. In 1844 he helped to build the first Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church of America. This building, which was of logs, was the first Norwegian church in America. That church was later on moved to St. Anthony Park, St. Paul, Minnesota, to the campus of the United Church Seminary. The next year, 1845, a church was built on Rock Prairie, the next oldest Norwegian church of America, and Clausen was called to be pastor. In the spring of 1849 Clausen made a trip to St. Paul, Minnesota, on the first steamboat up the Mississippi river. That steamboat brought the first message to St. Paul, that Minnesota was organized as a territory.

At that time Minnesota had about 4,000 inhabitants, and St. Paul consisted of about thirty houses, mostly occupied by French half-breeds. Clausen did not like the land there and went east to St. Croix and Pierce counties and made a Norwegian colony there. On his search for land suitable to colonize he came to Cedar river, northern part of Iowa, in 1852. He liked the land, took a claim and then went home to Rock Prairie. The

next spring, 1853, he and some of the first settlers went to Cedar river and his claim is situated on what he later on called St. Ansgar (named after St. Ansgar, Norden's apostle). Clausen issued the first Norwegian church paper of America, "The Evangelical Lutheran Kirketidende," which is still published at Decorah, Iowa. He was the first chairman both for the Synod and Conference. He was in one person, pastor, doctor, lawyer, justice, storekeeper, miller, publisher, colonizer, farmer, and a leader loved by all.

When and where the first meeting or sermon was held in this vicinity there is no record to show. But in 1859 Rev. C. L. Clausen, from St. Ansgar, Iowa, visited the settlement and organized Red Oak Grove congregation, which at that time also included what is now called Blooming Prairie Lutheran church. Rev. C. L. Clausen continued to visit the settlement and held sermons in the farmers' small log houses, but when the war broke out he enlisted in the army as chaplain. During the time of war the sermons were few and far between.

In those days the settlement was sometimes visited by A. S. Frederickson. His territory was from Fillmore county east to Brown county west. He preached, baptized and called himself minister, although he was not ordained. He is best known by the name "Skinbrokapresten" because for every-day use he made his clothes of sheep pelts and sometimes had to take pelts, wool and fur for his salary. It is said that he preferred to do so, and when he had gathered a good load he went to Winona and sold it and found the deal profitable.

Old folks can tell that the children sometimes were quite large before baptized, so they either were ready to run away or take the book out of the minister's hand during the act of baptism. October 12, 1867, a new and quite extensive pastorate was formed, consisting of St. Ansgar, Six Mill Grove, Little Cedar, Rock Creek and Red Oak Grove.

December 7, 1867, Red Oak Grove approved to this pastorate and elected and called Rev. C. L. Clausen to minister, and he accepted the call. Up to that time the congregation belonged to and was connected with the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod (called the Wisconsin Synod). But on account of some disagreement (for example, negro slavery, observance of Sunday, and of the conduct and maintenance of schools, and controversy concerning some religious doctrines; absolution, the justification of the world, the call, penitence, and selection of grace), separated from that body July 26, 1868. It continued to be independent until May 25, 1871, when the congregation joined the Norwegian Dane Evangelical Lutheran Conference and worked with that body until the United church was organized in 1890.

The conference was a part of that union. February 2, 1867, the first action was taken to erect a church building. The building committee was elected and the place for the building agreed on. Guttorm Olson Engen donated the lot. The times were hard and the settlers were poor, but the will was good, and they struggled and saved and gathered means and materials and finally were able to erect the first church building, 40x30x18, in 1869. December 5, 1870, Rev. C. L. Clausen introduced Rev. P. G. Ostby to the congregation as his assistant for his growing and extensive work. A new pastorate was formed, consisting of Red Oak Grove, Little Cedar, Austin, and Blooming Prairie. May 19, 1871, Rev. Paul G. Ostby was elected to its pastorate and he accepted the call. In 1875 it was decided to build an addition to the church, and February 26, 1876, the church building was finished and the members were rejoicing because they had a place in which to worship God. To crown the work, the congregation invited the Conference to hold its annual meeting in the church. The invitation was accepted. The annual meeting commenced June 14 and closed June 22. During that meeting, June 18, 1876, the church was dedicated by Professor Swen Oftedal, assisted by the present ministers. Rev. P. G. Ostby resigned and held his farewell sermon Good Friday, April 19, 1878.

Then the congregation again called Rev. C. L. Clausen from Virginia, where he had attempted to start a Norwegian Dane colony, an undertaking which had proved to be a financial failure. He responded to the call and resumed the work and held his first sermons again May 26, 1878. Rev. Clausen was then an old man and not very strong. His salary was increased so as to make it possible for him to call an assistant. January 15, 1879, Rev. Sven Strand was called to assist him. Rev. Clausen and Strand worked together until July 1, 1885. Clausen resigned, December 31, 1884, and the congregation was obliged to accept his resignation on account of his failing health.

January 21, 1885, Rev. S. Strand was chosen as Clausen's successor. The same day a mutual agreement was made to leave Austin out of the pastorate. December 14, 1892, it was decided that the pastorate hereafter consist of Red Oak Grove and Blooming Prairie. December 31, 1893, Rev. Strand read his resignation, but the majority of the congregation did not like to receive it. Several able candidates were nominated and voted on January 10, 1894, but defeated, and Strand was reelected with an overwhelming majority. But all in vain. He resigned again January 25, 1894, and the congregation had to accept his resignation, but urged him to continue his service until his successor was elected and qualified. June 25, 1894, Rev. Iverson was elected and took charge of his office in November, 1894. June 25, 1895, a meeting

was held of the members of said church for the purpose of the incorporation under the laws of the state of Minnesota relating to religious corporations. The meeting proceeded to organize and chose Rev. Nels Iverson chairman and L. O. Aldal clerk and elected three trustees: Helge Evenson, Christoffer Lunde, Simon Thompson. February 9, 1898, Rev. Nels Iverson found it necessary to resign from his duty in order to recover and restore his health. Neighboring pastors filled the pulpit until his successor was chosen. Our present estimable pastor, Osmond Johnson, was unanimously elected at a special meeting called for that purpose May 12, 1898. Rev. Osmond Johnson assumed the pastorate and held his first sermon October 2, 1898. In May, 1907, Blooming Prairie and Red Oak Grove congregations bought a parsonage situated in Blooming Prairie, which from that time was occupied by the pastor and his family. Present officers (1911): Trustees, Henry Hellickson, L. O. Hanson and Gullick Tollefson; deacons, Knut K. Lestrud, John Syvrud, O. A. Ulland and Ben K. Benson; treasurer, Helge Peterson; secretary, L. O. Aldal; parochial school teacher, Julia Boraas. Societies connected with the church: 1—Ladies' Aid Society, of which the minister is the chief leader, although they yearly elect from the members a president, a treasurer and a clerk. The proceeds are divided between the home and the foreign missions. 2—Temperance Society, Olaf Grant, president. 3—Young People's Society, leader, Julia Boraas.

The congregation at present (1911) has about six hundred members, of which over three hundred are confirmed and admissible to the Lord's Supper. The growth is gradually increasing, although some, especially young people, are moving out every year, as the situation is in all rural districts. Last year twenty-six children were baptized and a class of eighteen was confirmed in the holy covenant of baptism. Generally every other Sunday and Holy day in the year service is held in the church by the minister. To instruct the young in the Christian doctrine according to the tenets of the church, Sunday school and parochial school are taught. To prepare for confirmation it is customary in this congregation that the children at the age of thirteen or fourteen years, meet the minister in the church one day every other week, and continue for two years before confirmed.

The congregation aids to maintain, conduct and promote schools for instructing and training ministers, missionaries and teachers, and also to promote other religious and charitable work, such as orphans' homes, homes for old people, hospitals, and work for the missions, both home and foreign, as in Madagascar and China. The work is going on in good harmony and is fulfilling that Godly aim for which it was started.

Rev. Osmond Johnson, the present pastor (1911), assumed the pastorate of the congregation, October 1, 1898. Born on a farm in the neighborhood of Cambridge, Story county, Iowa, he received his early training in the parochial and public school of that locality. On November 29, 1879, he was confirmed in the Lutheran church by Rev. J. H. Myhre. Shortly after he was confirmed, he was urgently solicited by Rev. H. C. Holm to enter Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, Minnesota. This institution of learning he attended, with but little interruption, from January 1, 1881, to April 1, 1884. He spent the balance of 1884 and all of 1885 on the farm. In the spring of 1886 and the winter of 1887 he taught English school in the immediate neighborhood of his home. In the fall of 1887 he entered the Iowa State Normal school at Cedar Falls, Iowa, at which institution he graduated in June, 1892. In the fall of this year and the winter of the following one he was a student of the Chicago Theological Seminary. Entering the United Church Seminary, September 10, 1893, he finished the theological course of this school, May 2, 1896. July 23 of the same year he was ordained to the Lutheran ministry by Bishop Hoyme at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. He served the congregations at South Superior, Wisconsin, and Iron River, Wisconsin, from September 1, 1896, to August 1, 1898. October 1 of the same year he moved to Blooming Point, Minnesota, to take charge of the Lutheran church of that place, and of the congregation of whose history this sketch forms a part.

CHAPTER XLVI.

BENNINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Location and Advantages — First Settlement — Early Events — Organization—Religious.

Bennington is congressional township 102 north, range 14 west of the fifth principal meridian. It is bounded on the north by Frankford township, on the east by Fillmore county, on the south by LeRoy township, on the west by Clayton. The surface is gently rolling. While there is but little natural timber the abundance of shade testifies that tree planting has not been neglected. The soil is a dark loam, very fertile. A branch of Root river, rising in section 16, runs through sections 15, 11, 12 and 13, from the latter of which it crosses the eastern boundary of the town.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlement was made in the spring of 1856, by Robert, Edwin, Lucius and George T. Angell, Austin and E. J. Hutchinson, Ira Emerson and E. J. Kingsbury, all from New York, of which state they were natives. Some of the party, after their arrival here, went further on, exploring the country west and south. Apparently finding no lands which suited them better, they returned and all settled in the southwest part of the township. Here, on section 32, with all practicable dispatch, they put up a temporary shelter ingeniously constructed of straw, poles and canvass, deserving of mention as the first dwelling of the higher order than the wigwam of the native, within the limits of Bennington.

In 1857 came Henry, Joab and Stephen Guy, sons of James Guy, who established themselves in the east part of the township, making what became known as the Guy settlement.

Later came William Cooper, John Tanner, Henry Dunham, Fred Willbright, a man named Beach and one by the name of Miller W. Kellner.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first birth in the town was that of Florence Angell, in 1855. The first death that of Mrs. Robert Angell, in 1862. The first marriage was that of Augustus Groby and Mary Guy, Esquire Tanner officiating.

ORGANIZATION.

When the state was admitted in 1858, Bennington bore the name of Andover. The northern part was attached to Frankford and the southern half to LeRoy. In the autumn of 1860 at the house of Robert Angell, was held the first meeting for the election of officers for the town of Bennington. The following is the list: E. J. Kingsbury, chairman of the board; William Kelnar and Stepen Guy, supervisors; Ira Emmerson, clerk; G. T. Angell, justice of the peace; William Cooper, assessor.

RELIGIOUS.

The Bennington Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran congregation was organized May 15, 1896, when eleven men met at the residence of O. H. Norby with this purpose in view. Rev. O. A. Bu, who was present, was elected president of the meeting, and N. T. Miland was chosen secretary. After due deliberation the gentlemen decided to organize the congregation and proceeded to elect officers as follows: President, Rev. O. A. Bu; secretary, John N. Bjerke; treasurer, G. H. Hadland; trustees, Simon N.

Holt, O. N. Hegg and N. T. Miland. For four years the congregation had no church edifice but held services in the schoolhouse of district No. 102. In 1900 funds were raised and a church erected on section 21, Bennington township. Rev. O. A. Bu was the pastor until November, 1908, when the present pastor, Rev. J. C. Reiner, succeeded him.

CHAPTER XLVII.

NEVADA TOWNSHIP.

Location and Area—First Settlement—Organization—First Events—Religious—Industries—Six Mile Grove Settlement.

Nevada comprises congressional township 101 north, range 17 west. It is bounded on the north by Windom, east by Lodi, south by Mitchell county, Iowa, and west by the town of Lyle. The surface in the north part of the town is quite level, and does not drain readily, while the south part is gently rolling. Six Mile grove (so called) is located in this township, covering portions of sections 21, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32. This was, in an early day, heavily timbered. The most of the virgin timber has been cut and the ground is now covered with a flourishing second growth. The soil in the south part of the town is a black loam. In the north part of the town the soil is a very dark alluvial deposit. The soil in all parts of the town is very rich, and grows all kinds of cereals and grasses. The surface of the township is drained by Otter creek, which has its source in this town. One branch rises in the southwest quarter of section 26. It passes across the corners of sections 35 and 34, then courses northwest through sections 27 and 28. It then takes a southwesterly course to section 23, thence through sections 30 and 31, leaving the town from the southwest corner of the latter section. Another branch rises in the north part of the town, flows in a southerly course and makes confluence with the main branch in section 28.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

When the town was first settled the nearest market place was McGregor, Iowa. The first permanent settlers of the town were natives of Norway. Most of them brought some cattle and hogs to town with them, but the raising of pork was not as profitable as now, for oftentimes after teaming the pork to McGregor,

a distance of 120 miles, they were obliged to sell for one and one-half cents per pound, dressed weight. McGregor was for a time their wheat market. The settlers were generally provided with ox teams, and a trip to market generally consumed ten or twelve days, but in stormy weather and bad roads it would take much longer. It was the custom in pleasant weather to take provisions along and camp on the way, but this would not answer in cold, stormy weather and they were obliged to put up at the hotels along the route, which was rather expensive. Wheat often sold as low as forty cents per bushel, and sometimes the expense of the trip would be more than the returns for the wheat. In that case the tired granger would return home with empty pockets, and worse than all, had left bills behind to pay on the next trip. As to the change that has taken place no one can fully realize, except those who have experienced it.

This was one of the first settled towns in the county, having been first settled early in 1854. The first man to make a claim in the town was one William Allen, formerly from Massachusetts. He claimed the southwest quarter of section 29, which was valuable on account of the timber and water. Here he erected the first house in the town, if it can be called a house. It was of logs, 8x10, and covered with basswood bark. Mr. Allen made no improvement whatever, but waited patiently for some one to come along and buy his claim. In October of that year he sold to Gunder Halverson. He, however, remained on the place until the spring of 1855, when he moved to the town of Lyle, where he stopped for a time, then went to Oregon. The first permanent settlement in the town was made by Thor Olson, early in the spring of 1854. Olson was a native of Norway, who stopped for a short time in Mitchell county, Iowa. He first made a claim in section 29. He then built the second house in town. It was also a log house. A few months later he sold that claim and located another in sections 32 and 33. He afterwards sold that and bought land in sections 16, 17 and 21. He remained a resident of the town until 1872, when he sold and moved to Becker county, where he died September 21, 1874. Andreas Andreson, Martin Hanson and Peter Martin came in June, 1854; in the summer came Ole and Knud Anderson, Aslak Olson, Thron Richardsson, Ole Sampson, Swan Gorganson and Hans Swenson. In 1855 came James Gerard, Knud Tolleffson, Nels Olson; in 1856, Thove Larson, Alak Knulskaas, Francis Hersh, H. K. Volstad and others; in 1857, J. W. Gregg, David Austin and D. B. Nye formed the first settlement in the north part of the town. Other prominent settlers who came later were L. F. Stark, W. P. Stewart, J. P. Jones, Lyman St. John, O. C. Brown, H. F. Deming, J. H. and C. DeRemer, E. C. Dillingham, A. C. Bisbee, Jesse and Ches-

ter Rose, S. Clow, P. F. Rooney, Sam Enerson, J. Solner, and C. Meyer.

FIRST EVENTS.

The first white child born in the town was Andi Olson. She was born in Thor Olson's shanty, July 28, 1854. The second birth was Anna Sampson, August 25, 1854. The first death in the town was Alak Knulskaas. His death occurred in April, 1856, at forty-five years of age. His family returned to Iowa. The first marriage in the town was Francis Hersch to Helen Martin, February, 1856. The first suicide in the town was William Rowllins, who shot himself early in the spring of 1857. Andrew Peterson hanged himself in 1882.

ORGANIZATION.

The town was organized at a meeting held in May, 1858, at the house of P. A. Bailey, or at the hotel. The town records are not complete and we cannot give a full list of the first officers. John W. Gregg and Gunder Halverson were members of the first board of supervisors. P. A. Bailey was the first town clerk. The following named held offices in the town in the early days: H. C. Anderson, Knud Amundson, David Austin, L. F. Stark, Francis Hersch, W. P. Stewart, J. P. Jones, Lyman St. John, Ole Sampson, D. B. Nye, O. C. Brown, H. Knudson, D. P. Baldwin, H. F. Deming, C. DeRemer, E. C. Dillingham, Peter Martin, A. C. Bisbee, Jesse Rose, S. Clow, T. Olson, Recker Austin, John Ulwelling, T. Gotomson, Ambrose Thompson, P. F. Rooney, Henry Smith, Herman Eddy, C. J. Searles, G. E. Bisbee, Ole Aslackson, Sam Enerson, C. Meyer, Nels Rasmusson, C. A. Newman, H. K. Volstad, O. N. Nelson, William McFarland.

SIX MILE GROVE.

(By L. M. Eggen.)

Fifty-four years ago Six Mile Grove was a forest undisturbed by the European emigrants. The first Norwegians to settle in this part of the state arrived in 1854 and a few made their homes in Nevada township.

Thor Olson Ovesaker came to Six Mile Grove forest in the year 1853 and was gone during the winter, but came back to settle here in the spring of 1854. The following Norwegians moved and settled into this forest in the course of two years: Hans Swenson and son Christoffer, Trond Richardson and son Ole T., Martin Hanson, Aslak Flatin, Torges Olson, Trond Bonde, Ole Sampson, Fredrick Martin, Johannes Martin, Knut Qualey, Ole K. Qualey, Svend Trasimot, Peter Martin, Gunder Halverson,

Ole Thorson, Halvor Thorson, Andrew Anderson and sons, Hans C. and Anton.

During the following two or three years came: Herman Amundson and son Knute, Knut Hage, Francis Herch, Thor Larson, Halvor Volstad, Torbjorn Enerson and sons, Sam and Nels, Andrew Bergeson and sons, John and Hans, Richard Olson, Jaraud Olson, Richard Lunde, Nels Olson and son, Ole N.

The following settled here between the years 1858 and 1868: Gunder Knutson, Ole Rue, David Nelson, Torger Lee, Lars Meyer and son Chris, Knut Tollefson, Sven Jacobson, Jacob Jacobson, Knut Jacobson, Jacob Knutson, Knut Stoe, Ole Stoe Sr., Ole Stoe Jr., Jens Stoe, Knut Lasteen, Dreng Augundson, Bjorn Jergenson, Lars Olson Tuve, Gulbrand Haslebrek, Ole Severson, Andres Veslehagen and sons Erick and Nels, Lars Arneson, Gunder Austenson, Talleff Ostenson, Andrew Fimreit and son Ingebret, Gulbrand Morstad and son T. G., Ole Lasteen, Andrew Peterson, Johannes Arneson, Even Evenson and Ole Evenson.

These well-known people had all belonged to the Lutheran State church in Norway, and while some probably had no spiritual cravings, others were yearning for the bread of life and looked prayerfully for a servant of God who could preach to them the word of salvation and administer the sacrament of the Lord. The nearest Lutheran church was at St. Ansgar, Iowa, where the first pioneers were obliged to go with their infants for baptism and the young people for instruction in religion, preparatory for confirmation. Bridegrooms also went with their brides to get the blessings of the church. Pastors, however, visited the settlement several times and gathered the people for devotional services. Among these pastors were Reverends Preus, Clausen and Otterson.

During the war the following brave men enlisted: Rev. C. L. Clausen as chaplain, Corporal Knut Amundson, Johannes Martin, Sam Everson, Christoffer Swenson, Jacob Jacobson, John Bergeson, Even Evenson, Ole N. Nelson and Thomas Johnson.

The Six Mile Grove Lutheran Congregation was not permanently organized until November 19, 1859. On that date the Six Mile Grove Norwegian Lutheran church was organized and it was one of the first Scandinavian Lutheran churches in Mower county.

The first business meeting of the church was held under the Big Elm on the Trond Richardson farm in section 29, and was continued at Qualey's home.

Rev. C. L. Clausen organized the congregation and served this parish until 1871. He was succeeded by Rev. John Olson, of St. Ansgar, Iowa, who served the congregation until 1878. He was succeeded by Prof. B. Gjeldaker, of Norway, who served until

1882, when Rev. J. Muller Eggen took charge and served until January 1, 1906. Since that time Rev. N. N. Esser has been in charge. Services were held in private homes and schoolhouses until the year 1867, when the church was erected. The building committee was: Rev. C. L. Clausen, Hans C. Anderson, Ole Sampson and Gunder Knutson. They hastened the erection of the church so it was ready for use in 1868. Rev. John Olson dedicated the church.

The first Ladies' Aid Society was organized by Rev. Olson. This organization bought the church bell, which cost \$325, and is one of the best in this section. The first session of parochial school held in the settlement was in Hans Swenson's home and also in a log cabin on section 32.

School was held in different homes until 1865, when a building was erected in section 28 in school district No. 11. The first parochial school teacher was Andreas Pederson, the second Lars Thaw, and the third Torger Lee, followed by Ekeland, Stuvland, Standall, Tollerand, and the present teacher, D. D. Lione.

Andi Olson was the first white child born in Nevada township, and Mrs. I. K. Everson (nee Anne Sampson) was the second. The first funeral in the congregation took place in 1856, when Aslak Knutskaas was buried, having died at the age of forty-five. The first wedding took place when Helen Martin was united in marriage to Francis Herch.

The congregation conducts a Sunday school during the greater part of the year, with an attendance of about fifty scholars and ten teachers, but relies mainly on the instruction at home and in its parochial school for the training of children in the Christian faith.

The present officers of the church are: Pastor, N. N. Esser; teacher, D. D. Lione; secretary, K. L. Leidall; treasurer, Nels Haugland; organist, Miss Bellena Sampson; janitor, K. L. Leidall; ushers, C. O. Sampson and L. M. Eggen. Deacons—Erick Anderson, Ingebret Anderson, Ed. D. Nelson, Aslak Teiman, T. G. Morstad, and Knute Jacobson. Board of trustees—A. P. Martin, Talleg Ostenson, Ole Ostenson, Knute O. Rue, A. K. Jacobson, and Erick Ingesether.

At the present time the congregation has a membership of about 520.

INDUSTRIES.

The First Mill in Nevada. In the early settlement of the town the nearest mill was at Decorah, Iowa, sixty-five miles distant. Some of the settlers had no teams, and the distance was too great for one to pack a large grist on his back. Ole Sampson thought he would mend the matter a little and keep the wolf from the

doctr. He dug out the top of an oak stump so that it resembled a druggist's mortar. In that he would put the corn and mash it by means of a solid block of wood attached to a pole, which was balanced on a post. By this means he kept his own as well as other families supplied with meal for nearly two years, and to use the words of Mr. Halverson, it was a Godsend in those trying days of 1855 and 1856. Gunder Halverson often in after years related the following incident that happened in an early day, when corn as well as mills were scarce: "I was going to mill and went around to the neighbors and gathered what corn they had—in all two sacks. I then proceeded on my way. On my arrival near the mill I found I had a stream to cross, which was so swollen by recent rains that I would not ford with the team, so I shouldered a sack of corn and started to cross on a log that had been felled across the stream for a foot log. While walking the log I lost my balance and went into the stream, corn and all. The sack of grain was lost; I saved myself by grasping a root that protruded from the bank, and pulled myself ashore. I felt that I would rather have lost \$100 in gold than to have lost the sack of corn at that time. I succeeded in getting the other sacks across all safe; got it ground and returned home." Two creameries have flourished in this township—Nevada creamery in the northwest corner of section 23, and Otter Creek creamery in section 31.

Nevada village was platted in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 2, township 101, range 17, March 7, 1857, by James Jarrard.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD.

Second Infantry M. N. G.—Company "G" of Austin—Company "G" in the Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, Spanish-American War—Officers and Men—First and Present Officers—By Col. Arthur W. Wright.

Company G, Second Regiment Infantry, was organized in Austin, September 8, 1882, by J. S. Anderson, who was chosen captain. At first the company was organized as a cavalry troop, but assigned to the infantry the following year. It first met at Armory hall and later at Jones hall. The original officers and noncommissioned officers were: Captain, James S. Anderson;



COL. ARTHUR W. WRIGHT.

first lieutenant, Horace W. Elms; second lieutenant, Frank A. Richards; sergeants, William E. Richardson, William J. Schwan, Luther M. Ober, Edward H. Sterling, Dwight G. Skinner; corporals, Charles E. Huser, Jacob Weisel, Thomas Hiram, Frederick G. Knox, Ira Padden, and Samuel G. Sweningsen. Privates, John J. Black, William M. Cooper, Frank Dearborn, Henry P. Greenman, Christ Hall, Charles O. Johnson, Godfrey Lauffle, William T. Mollison, William H. Merriek, Thomas E. H. Rochford, Miles M. Trowbridge, Erick Westland, Cornelius Sullivan, Thomas J. Murphy, Scott Schumacher, Albert P. Fredrich, Charles E. Clark, George B. Corning, Charles J. Gibson, Henry Herzog, Herbert Hart, Ole Finhart, Jr., Willard T. Leslie, William J. McLedoon, Isaac Patchin, George H. Smith, William H. Teeter, James T. Yates, Lawrence G. Geraghty, Leon Dettlebach, Frank B. White, and William A. C. Adams.

The company numbered forty-six in all. Captain Anderson died at the hospital at Bremerton, Washington, April 12, 1911. He was born in Pavillion, New York, July 6, 1835. Joined Company F, Twenty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteers and served three years in the rebellion. For eighteen years he had charge of the shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road at Austin, Minnesota. He was a charter member of the St. Bernard Commandery, K. T., and a member of General Grant Post, G. A. R., Bremerton, of which he was past commander. In 1888 the family moved to Seattle and later to their present home in Bremerton, where for the past six years he had the position as engineer in the navy yard.

The company has been in the continuous service of the state ever since its organization, except that pursuant to a prejudiced report of the then Major George W. Mead, made January 30, 1885, it was mustered out and made the Austin Reserve Militia.

A reinstatement was demanded and a competitive drill for such reinstatement had between such Reserve Company and companies of reserves at St. Cloud and Wadena. It was reinstated without the loss of time as a result of a favorable report made by Capt. Ed S. Bean, of the First Infantry, M. N. G., dated May 6, 1885.

The membership at that critical time in the history of the company was as follows: Miles M. Trowbridge, captain; L. A. Pierce, first lieutenant; Dwight G. Skinner, second lieutenant; Martin B. Davidson, Fred B. Wood, Henry Greenman, Worthy S. Sterling, William Theo. Mollison, William Holt, Lyman Sherwood, Charles F. Cook, Thomas Revord, William Crane, Henry W. Clark, Charles F. Clark, Nicholas Nicholsen, Clarence D. Heffin, William A. Willard, Lansing O. Hollister, George Ward, Frank H. Sterling, Carl Fairbanks, Joseph E. Schwan, Smith Davison,

Adelbert Wright, Arthur W. Wright, Commodore L. Geraghty, Nordahl B. Solner, William C. Hocking, James M. Engle, William H. Teeter, William M. Vile, Elmer S. Hall, Jacob Mauch, Ira Padden, William G. Hunter, George W. Bliss, Suwarrow A. Smith, William R. Earl, William H. Officer, Levi W. Decker, Samuel D. Catherwood, Charles A. Litchfield, George C. Dodge, Tom Hillam, Oliver C. Comforth, Henry Herzog, Adelbert B. Hunkins, Landon Taylor, William B. Woods, Sumner A. Emerson, Amil H. Retsloff, Wert F. Anderson, and D. F. Blythe, privates.

The captains of the company have been: James S. Anderson, Miles M. Trowbridge, John A. Sands, Arthur W. Wright, now colonel; Fred B. Wood, now adjutant general; Alfred C. Page, now regimental adjutant; Nicholas Nicholsen, now major; Lee M. Sargent, Charles F. Cook, now in command. The first lieutenants have been: Horace W. Elms, Franch A. Richards, Luvern A. Pierce, Ira Padden, Fred B. Wood, Charles F. Cook, Alfred C. Page, Nicholas Nicholsen, and Frank B. Teeter. The second lieutenants have been: Frank A. Richards, James E. Crews, Dwight G. Skinner, Henry W. Clark, Arthur W. Wright, Charles F. Cook, Ira B. Sherwood, John E. Detwiler, Nicholas Nicholsen, Frank B. Teeter, and Peter Johnson, Jr. The present officers are: Charles F. Cook, captain; Frank B. Teeter, first lieutenant; Peter Johnson, Jr., second lieutenant.

Company G forms a part of the Second Regiment Infantry, Minnesota National Guard, which consists of twelve companies, with headquarters at Austin. It is officered and made up as follows: Colonel, Arthur W. Wright, Austin; lieutenant colonel, George S. Whitney, Faribault; major, Nicholas Nicholsen, Austin; major, John Buschers, New Ulm; major, William T. Mollison, Faribault; regimental adjutant, Capt. A. C. Page, Austin; lieutenant and surgeon, Arthur N. Collins, Austin. There are additional staff officers scattered through the state.

The companies are: A, New Ulm; B, Faribault; C, Winona; D, Northfield; E, Fairmont; F, Worthington; G, Austin; H, Mankato; I, Owatonna; K, St. Peter; L, Redwood Falls; M, Madison.

Major Mollison was a charter member of Company G, the worthy son of a worthy father, Allan Mollison, one of the few who lived to recount the deeds of the historic First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, Company G volunteered in a body, others being mustered in to bring the company up to a war strength, and became Company G of the Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

The following is a list of the officers and men who made up that company: Fred B. Wood, captain; Alfred C. Page, first lieutenant; Nicholas Nicholsen, second lieutenant. Noncommis-

sioned officers: Jacob Nichol森, first sergeant; Charles F. Ellis, Q. M. S.; sergeants, Lee M. Sargent, Henry F. George, Charles D. Galloway, Frank B. Teeter; corporals, Edward P. Kelly, Nels K. Christopherson, Edward C. Walters, Charles W. Clark, William D. Bassler, Michael A. McCormick, Charles Ulmer, Harry M. Keyser, Adolph G. Johnson, Robert N. Castle, Henry McLain, George C. Fenton, John W. Howard; Burnie Maurek, musician; Roy A. Woodward, musician; Herbert N. Kendrick, artificer; Henry J. Zender, wagoner. Privates: Charles J. Alberts, Jr., Swen Anderson, Moses Buchanan, Mason I. Chamberlin, William H. Cole, Lynderman W. Davis, Jay E. Decker, Thomas Dowd, George Duggan, Max F. Erdman, Clifford A. Fletcher, George L. French, James E. Graham, Frank Hillam, William H. Horrobin, Henry Jerome, Andrew C. Johnson, James S. Jorgenson, John Larson, Louie M. Lettven, Henry Logas, William L. Mack, Gabriel A. Mills, James Moran, Jens P. Anderson, Harry W. Bershon, Edward W. Carpenter, Frank Clark, Walter Curry, Earnest E. Daggett, Riley Dickerson, George H. Dolphin, Charles A. Egan, Guy L. Fairbanks, Clarence Freeman, Fred C. Fredrickson, Denzie M. Grow, Benjamin Hormel, Alvin Hurlbut, Jens Jenson, William N. Jordan, Clifford R. Judd, Fred Larson, Jay Lockwood, George K. Lord, Thomas M. Madden, Frank A. Monty, Oren Mott, Charles McAphin, Nels Newman, Ole K. Ostegaard, Albert A. Peterson, Chris Peterson, Mattheas Ransch, Donald Robertson, David S. Smith, George F. Todd, Loren Trenary, Clarence Watt, Giles H. Wilsie, Edward W. Young, Peter T. McIntyre, Hans Laurence Olson, James E. Parish, Sven O. Peterson, Mike Pieha, Paul J. Reynolds, Joseph Sistek, Louis Sorenson, John M. Teeter, Avery J. Vermillyea, Gustaf F. Ward, and Richard E. Wing.

Private William H. Burchell, discharged for disability at Camp George H. Thomas, July 28, 1898; Musician William R. Crandall, transferred Regimental Band, May 23, 1898; Musician Clarence E. Woodward, transferred Regimental Band, May 23, 1898; Private Norman C. Sutherland, transferred Regimental Band, May 23, 1898; Private Roy Atkinson, transferred to Hospital Corps, July 20, 1898; Private Wallace L. Woodward, transferred to Hospital Corps, July 20, 1898; Private Frank E. Hubbard, on detached service as cook Third Division Hospital; Private Elmer Jeen, transferred to Hospital Corps, October 14, 1898, and also on detached service; Sergeant Guy Herman, transferred to band, October 26, 1898 (died of disease, etc.); Sergeant Harvey A. Chapin, sick at Third Division Hospital, July 25 to August 23, 1898 (died in Third Division Hospital, Camp G. H. Thomas, August 23, 1898, of typhoid fever); Private Mikel Mikelson, sick at Third Division Hospital, Camp G. H. Thomas, August 8 to 19 (died in Third Division Hospital, August 19, 1898,

of typhoid fever); Private Christen (Christian) Paulsen, sick at Third Division Hospital, Camp Hamilton, August 28 to 30 (died August 30, 1898, of typhoid fever); Private Salva Torgenson, died at Camp Mueller, New Ulm, October 25, 1898. It will be seen that four men who went out full of health and hope answered the grim call, victims of disease.

The Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry went into camp at Camp Ramsey (State Fair Grounds), April 29, 1898, was mustered into United States service May 6, 1898. Remained in Camp Ramsey until May 16. Arrived at Rossville, Tennessee, May 19. Went into camp at Camp George H. Thomas, near Lytle, Georgia, May 20, 1898, being a part of the First Brigade, Third Division, First Army Corps. Removed to a new camp, August 14, 1898. Removed to Camp Hamilton, near Lexington, Kentucky, August 22-24, 1898. Left Lexington on return to Minnesota, September 15, and went into camp at Camp Mueller, near New Ulm, September 17, 1898. September 22 furloughed for thirty days. Mustered out November 5, 1898. During this period the regiment was under the command of Col. Joseph Bobleter, of New Ulm, a thorough soldier, beloved by officers and men alike. The First Battalion was under the command of Major George W. Mead. The Second Battalion was under the command of Major Arthur W. Wright. The Third Battalion was under command of Major George S. Whitney.

Officers and men longed for active service and regretted the inactivity of camp life. The regiment, Company G, and all the component parts, were exceedingly well prepared, drilled and equipped, and no better body of soldiers ever answered a call to arms; that they remained inactive was no fault of theirs; the war was too short, too quickly over, to require them at the front.

CHAPTER XLIX.

EARLY POLITICAL HISTORY.

Story of Early Political Parties and Contests Told by Jacob N. NicholSEN — East and West Side Fights — Nominees and Results of Elections in Antebellum Days—War Time Politics —Exciting Days for Mower County.

The early political history of Mower county is interwoven with her general history. It is exceedingly difficult to winnow out those facts which relate solely to the politics of the community without taking with them a mass of related information.

1855—There had been no election in the county prior to the year 1855, so it may with reason be said that the history of county politics begins with that date. The Sixth Territorial Legislature in February of that year had established the boundaries of the county. On July 25, both the Republican and Democratic state conventions were held at St Paul. In the Republican convention Mower and Freeborn counties were entitled to sixteen delegates but only one was present and voted. It was not a question of Republican and Democrat that agitated the voters of the county in that day, for the Republican party had only just been born. In fact, it was not a question of politics anyway that interested the voters, but rather the question of East and West; whether the east side of the county or the west side should control the county. The east side put forward as their candidate for the territorial legislature one W. B. Covell, a Democrat. The west side pinned their faith to A. B. Vaughan, a Republican. Under a tree at High Forest the polls were spread and when the ninety-seven were counted it was found that A. B. Vaughan had received a majority of the votes. Mr. Covell, however, made the return to the register of deeds at Houston, and from him received a certificate of election and thereupon qualified, was sworn in and took upon himself the duties of the office.

1856—In 1856 Governor Gorman appointed the first board of county commissioners and they met at Frankford on April 7. George White and Phillip Howell were present. William Russell was absent. It was their duty to locate the county seat. Whether they performed that duty or not is perhaps a question—it is discussed elsewhere in this volume. The proceedings of the county commissioners and the actions of the county seat removers failed to take the county seat question wholly out of politics for some time thereafter. Even after the seat of the county government had been permanently located at Austin, an attempt was made to have it removed to Ramsey. Two tickets were before the people at the general election, which was held on October 14. The "People's Ticket" was put up by the westsiders and a "Union ticket" by the eastsiders. The candidates on these ticket were as follows: People's ticket: Representative, J. M. Berry; register of deeds, R. L. Kimball; sheriff, J. B. Yates; treasurer, S. P. Bacon; surveyor, N. P. Todd; commissioners, W. B. Spencer, G. H. Bemis, H. C. Blodgett; judge of probate, A. B. Vaughan; coroner, O. Allen. Union ticket: Representative, T. H. Armstrong; register of deeds, W. B. Covell; sheriff, J. S. Pierson; treasurer, G. P. Covell; surveyor, M. K. Armstrong; commissioners, William Spencer, C. F. Hardy, N. Goodsell; judge of probate, C. J. Felch; coroner, J. Pierce. There were about 375 ballots cast. The People's ticket was successful throughout

except for the office of county surveyor — Armstrong being elected to that office by a majority of 74. The other Union candidates were defeated by about forty to fifty votes. The east side had heretofore been more favored in the distribution of offices, but now it passed to the west side, where the majority in number has remained ever since. All but two of the officers elected at the election of 1857 were from the west side, whereas previous thereto the east side had all but two or three. The list of the candidates at this election discloses many names which were of considerable importance in the subsequent political history of the county. J. M. Berry, the successful candidate for representative, was not a Mower county man. His home at the time of his election was at Lanesboro in Fillmore county. He subsequently removed to Faribault, in Rice county, which he represented in the state legislature of 1863. He was raised to the Supreme bench in 1864, and held that position until the time of his death in 1889.

1857—The legislature had authorized a special election to determine the location of the county seat. That was held on June 1, and Austin was the place designated. The east side electors cast their votes for Brownsdale. M. Berry had put through the territorial legislature a bill to cut off the twelve north sections of ranges 14 and 15, thus eliminating the voters of High Forest from the county seat contest, which occurred nine days after the enactment of the bill into law. On July 6, pursuant to the vote of the electorate, the county commissioners, by resolution spread on its records, located the county seat definitely and permanently at Austin, where it has ever since remained. A constitutional convention was called in 1857. Each representative district was entitled to two delegates. This was held to mean two delegates for each representative and two delegates for each member of the council. The constitutional convention was particularly important at this time on account of the slavery and anti-slavery agitation. Mower county, with Houston and Fillmore, constituted the Eighth district, and it was entitled to fourteen delegates. The two conventions, holding sessions in either wing of the capitol and finally adopting the instrument of identical wording as the constitution of this commonwealth, belongs to the general rather than the political history of the county. The representatives from this district seated in the Republican wing were as follows: Alanson B. Vaughan, Clark W. Thompson, John A. Anderson, Charles A. Coe, N. P. Colburn, Joseph A. McCann, H. A. Billings, Charles Hanson, H. W. Holley, John Cleghorn, A. H. Butler, Robert Lyle and Boyd Phelps. The Democrats contested Lyle's seat, claiming that at least thirty-nine voters of Freeborn county had crossed the imaginary line that

marked its eastern boundary and that by their votes Lyle was elected fraudulently over Thomas Armstrong. Armstrong was seated in the Democratic wing on August 11, but was not on the original role of that body. James C. Day was the fourteenth delegate. He was the only uncontested Democrat from this district, and with his brethren of the same political faith he occupied a seat in the Democratic convention. In the general election of 1857 the following named persons were elected to county offices: Clerk of court, J. E. Willard; treasurer, A. S. Everest. Everest had arrived in the county in March of that year. These men were all from the west side. On the state ticket the county divided into Republican and Democratic camps but the county ticket was a geographical one.

1858—The Republicans put in nomination for the various offices the following men: Senator, H. C. Rogers; representative, S. Bostwick; register, D. Blakely; sheriff, G. W. Bishop; surveyor, C. E. Carter; auditor, D. B. Johnson; coroner, O. Allen; probate judge, no candidate. The Democrats also had a ticket in the field, as follows: Senator, W. B. Covell; representative, O. B. Morse; register, E. W. Ford; sheriff, J. B. Yates; surveyor, J. P. Jones; auditor, Isaac Smith; coroner, Joseph Richards; probate judge, G. M. Cameron. The Democratic candidate for probate judge had no opposition and was elected. Otherwise the whole Republican ticket was successful, with a majority of about 125 out of 670 votes.

1859-1860—The sources of information shed no light upon the political situation in these two years except barely to register the names of the newly elected officers. In 1859 T. J. Lake was elected treasurer; Ormanzo Allen, auditor, and C. J. Short was appointed county attorney. In 1860 Solomon Snow was elected register of deeds; E. D. Fenton, sheriff; R. A. Sherwood, clerk of court, and Robert Lyle, judge of probate. The census of the county taken in 1860 disclosed 3,216 inhabitants. In December of that year "The Minnesota Courier" put forth its initial number and was for some time thereafter of considerable importance in the politics of the county. The Mower County "Mirror" had been first published in 1858. The Courier was a Republican journal through and through and during the time of the Civil war was an ardent supporter of the administration.

1861—Between the election of 1860 and January, 1861, there appear to have been two claimants for the position of clerk of court. The books were in the actual possession of the Democratic claimant until shortly after New Years in 1861, when Lyman Sherwood, the Republican claimant, obtained possession of the books and thereafter held the office. On August 29, the Republican convention was held at Frankford. There was practically

no opposition to any name proposed other than that of L. A. Sherwood for clerk. He received twenty-one votes, and B. F. Jones, editor of the *Courier*, received twenty. Jones in his next newspaper issue claimed that he had not been a candidate. The nominees of the convention were as follows: Representative, S. W. Bostwick; representative, H. C. Rogers; judge of probate, Robert Lyle; treasurer, Sylvester Smith; clerk of court, Lyman A. Sherwood; county attorney, Calvin Short; coroner, O. Allen. The "Union" party had a state ticket in the field, but it was withdrawn by the state central committee in September, leaving only the Republican and Democratic tickets in the state contest. On September 25 a call was issued for a Union mass meeting to be held at Brownsdale on the 28th. It bore over a hundred and fifty signatures. This convention put the following persons in nomination: Representative, H. H. Shook; representative, P. C. Sheffield; treasurer, T. J. Lake; clerk of court, B. F. Jones; court commissioner, J. T. Sargeant; county attorney, G. M. Cameron; county commissioners, Adam St. John, J. W. Gregg, and G. T. Angel. The vital portion of the platform of this convention was contained in this plank: "Resolved, That we, the people of Mower county, in mass convention assembled, do hereby abandon every party line and all party differences and rally upon the one common platform, to urge an unflinching prosecution of the war, to save every inch of our country's soil, to save every letter of her constitution and every principle of her sacred liberty." Jones, the nominee of this convention for clerk of court, declined to run; Lake, its candidate for treasurer had previously announced himself as an independent candidate, after having been defeated for renomination in the Republican convention. Hints of bad business methods and a "reasonable doubt" as to correctness of fees collected by the treasurer were used against Lake. The whole Republican ticket was elected.

1862—March 1, Mr. Smith, the treasurer, obtained possession of the books from Mr. Lake. Lake had threatened to hold them until compelled to turn them over by process of law. It was claimed that he was some \$6,000 short in his accounts. Mr. Lake had on hand Illinois and Wisconsin bank bills, state script, town orders, etc., in the revenue funds, and these were not passing at par. The county commissioners offered to stand one-half of the loss on these items and Lake to stand the other half, but that he declined to do. The commissioners ordered suit brought against Lake, but before the papers were served the difficulty was adjusted by Lake accepting the terms offered by the commissioners. On August 7 a Republican county convention was held at Brownsdale. Austin, Lansing, Udolpho, Red Rock, Frankford and Adams were represented. Messrs. Bostwick, Rogers and

Snow were elected as delegates to the Republican convention, which was held at Owatonna, and which nominated William Windom, of Winona county, for representative in congress. The regular Republican party now styled itself the Union Republican party. A Union Republican county convention was held at Austin September 26; the nominees were as follows: Representative, B. D. Sprague; representative, S. P. Bacon; register of deeds, Solomon Snow; county auditor, Ormanzo Allen; probate judge, Robert Lyle; court commissioner, D. B. Johnson, Jr.; county surveyor, J. T. Jones; sheriff, E. D. Fenton. The Democratic convention was held at the same village the day following; its nominees were as follows: Representative, William Buck; representative, Thomas Gibson; register of deeds, H. H. Vale; county auditor, J. M. Wyckoff; sheriff, A. D. Brown; court commissioner, Alonzo Patchin; judge of probate, Robert Reed. A Union county convention irrespective of political parties was held at Brownsdale October 11. Its call was signed "by request of many citizens." It put this ticket in the field: Representative, A. B. Vaughan; representative, J. M. Wyckoff; register of deeds, Sachett Seers; county auditor, G. M. Cameron; sheriff, James T. Sargent; probate judge, H. I. Parker; court commissioner, B. F. Jones; surveyor, J. P. Jones. A public letter from L. N. Griffith to G. M. Cameron and a reply from the latter, stating that he would perform the services of county auditor for a salary of \$250 per annum, instead of the \$500 which had been paid, brought on an interesting and entertaining newspaper correspondence mainly between Mr. Cameron and C. J. Short. At times it was considerably more pointed and personal than polite. The election resulted in a general Republican victory.

1863—August 19. the state convention was held. The call covered "the Republican and all other unconstitutional Union men who are earnest and honest supporters of the administration." Mower county had two votes out of 129. The Republican county convention was held at Frankford August 12. It put in nomination the following candidates: Senator, B. D. Sprague; representative, Royal Crane; representative, Augustus Barlow (both from Dodge county); treasurer, Sylvester Smith; county attorney, H. R. Davidson; county commissioner, J. E. Robinson. Le Roy sent two delegations. The convention seated one-half of each delegation and allowed each to select its own delegate. The Democrats called their county convention for August 15, at Austin, to elect delegates to attend the state convention at St. Paul. Their nominees for county officers were as follows: Senator, V. P. Lewis; representative, John Fulton; representative, James M. Rider; treasurer, John M. Wyckoff; attorney, O. B. Morse;

court commissioner, E. Beldin. The Republican ticket carried the election by about five to one. There was no People's ticket in the field. In Lyle and Nevada there wasn't a Democratic vote cast.

1864—The Republican county convention was held at Brownsdale September 1, with ten precincts represented. The party was now designated as "Union," "Union Republican" and "Republican Union" as well as "Republican." It placed the following named men in nomination: Representative, Royal Crane; representative, C. D. Tuthill; register of deeds, E. A. Hudson; auditor, Ormanzo Allen; sheriff, W. F. Grummon; attorney, C. J. Short; probate judge, Robert Lyle; court commissioner, E. B. Crane; surveyor, A. B. Vaughan. On the first formal ballot for register of deeds Hudson and Soloman Snow tied. The Democratic county convention was held at the same place two days latter. Its nominees were the following: Register of deeds, L. R. Hathaway; auditor, O. B. Morse; sheriff, J. F. Smith; probate judge, Benjamin Carl; attorney, G. M. Cameron; court commissioner, H. Stewart. Soloman Snow came out as an independent candidate for register of deeds and was successful. Otherwise the election was solidly Republican. The Republicans were usually known as "Union" and the Democrats were styled "Copperhead" by their Republican opponents.

1865—The Union county convention was held at Austin September 1. The nominees were: Representative, C. J. Felch; representative, D. B. Johnson, Jr.; treasurer, Sylvester Smith; clerk of court, L. A. Sherwood. The Democratic convention was held at the same time and place and put in nomination: J. M. Wyckoff for representative; Armando Sprague for representative; Martin Litchfield for treasurer; James B. Clark for clerk of court. Henry C. Rogers, of Mower county, was the Union nominee for secretary of state. The Union candidates were elected.

1866—In March, Judge Lyle resigned from the office of probate judge. The county commissioners approved Ormanzo Allen to fill the vacancy. Lyle resided on a farm south of Austin eight or ten miles and the traveling necessary to carry him to his post of duty was tiresome to him. He had been a good officer so far as a layman could fill a judicial office. On February 7, an anti-monopoly convention was held at St. Paul. It was presided over by T. H. Armstrong, of High Forest. The main object of the convention was to obtain lower freight rates on the river boats and to hurry the construction of railroads in and into this state. On September 5, Sherman Page entered into the office holding position of the state by being appointed to the office of superintendent of schools at a salary of \$400 per year. He assumed

office in October. Practically his first move was to enter into a newspaper controversy with Joseph B. Tallman, his predecessor, in reference to the October teacher's institute. At Le Roy, on September 15, the Republican party held its county convention. There were contests for half the places, but it apparently engendered no ill feeling. The convention nominees were as follows: Representative (west side), D. B. Johnson, Jr.; representative (east side), C. J. Felch; register, S. Snow; auditor, H. M. Allen; sheriff, D. J. Tubbs; attorney, E. O. Wheeler; probate judge, Ormanzo Allen; surveyor, J. P. Jones; court commissioner, Ormanzo Allen; coroner, D. O. Allen. The party designation was now Republican only—the word Union having been dropped, but it was still used in the newspapers as part of the party name. The word Union was not eliminated from the politics of the day, for the Democrats promptly adopted it as their own, and called their convention under the name of “Conservative Union Party.” It met at Austin September 22 and placed in nomination the following candidates: Representative, Andrew D. Brown; representative, Wallace Brownson; register, Simon P. Stewart; auditor, O. B. Morse; attorney, A. A. Wright; probate judge, J. M. Vandegrift; court commissioner, Orlando Sprague. Both representatives were from the west side. Resolutions approving the case of President Johnson were adopted. The election on November 6 was preceded by political apathy and resulted in a clear Republican victory in the county of about four to one.

1867. The fall elections resulted in sending D. A. Shaw and E. K. Proper to the legislature and Sylvester Smith was elected county treasurer.

1868. The new county court house entered into the politics of the year. D. J. Tubbs, of Austin, was the contractor and \$6,450 the contract price. Considerable feeling manifested itself in reference to the contract and its performance. The court house and the Austin school house were the cause of many rancorous debates—on the streets and in the press—and assisted materially in dividing the voters of Austin into the two camps which for some years after waged continual warfare on each other. A wide breach opened between Mr. Page, the school superintendent, and the school board, and the controversy waxed warm indeed—to the detriment of the school and its work. The Mower County Transcript entered the field at Lansing in April and plunged boldly into the political arena. April 25 a Republican club was formed at the county seat, not for the purpose of fostering the interests of the party in general but rather for the purpose of controlling the coming charter election at Austin. Following the one came another. Attempts were made to harmonize the two

organizations, but the attempts proved futile. The result was that the Democrats made a clean sweep in the charter election, excepting only the minor office of civil justice.

June 24 the Republicans held their county convention at LeRoy for the purpose of electing delegates to attend the district convention at Owatonna. The county was divided between Dunnell men and Wilkinson men. These differences had become pronounced prior to the town caucuses and much ill feeling was engendered. Frankford had gone so far as to send two delegations to LeRoy. The convention was apparently in the hands of the Wilkinson men and the temporary organization was perfected by them. The Dunnell men outvoted them on the question of election of a permanent chairman, but the temporary organization refused to give way to the majority. Inflammatory speeches with taunts and threats soon broke up the body, so that it was unable to work. The Dunnell men withdrew from the school house convention and called their own meeting to order in the depot. Each elected its own set of delegates to the Owatonna convention, and at Owatonna the fight was renewed. The credentials committee declined to pass on the merits of the claims of the two contending factions. After six hours of rancorous debate on the floor of the convention, after the "lie" had been passed and even blows exchanged, the Dunnell delegates elected in the rump convention were seated. M. S. Wilkinson, however, was on the thirty-seventh ballot nominated for representative. In the depot convention at LeRoy caustic resolutions were passed; among them was one pledging work and votes against Sylvester Smith, the county treasurer.

In the Democratic county convention, held at Austin July 28, for the purpose of electing delegates to the district convention, there were but four precincts represented. The factional fight at LeRoy was carried into the regular fall Republican convention, which was held at Lansing September 16. One faction met in the school house and the other in the church. The school house contingent contained the same faction which had held the LeRoy convention in the school house and the church organization was the LeRoy depot faction. The nominees of each faction were as follows: School house—Auditor, H. M. Allen; register, J. T. Williams; attorney, C. J. Shortt; judge of probate, C. F. Hardy; surveyor, H. S. Burke; coroner, Orlenzer Allen; sheriff, Allan Mollison. Church—Auditor, W. G. Telfer; register, George W. Robinson; attorney, J. E. Robinson; probate judge, J. P. Jones; surveyor, L. M. Gaskell; coroner, T. H. Sherman; sheriff, J. M. McKee. The Democratic county convention met at Austin October 2, with every precinct represented. Its nominees were as follows: Auditor, J. M. Wyckoff; register, L. R. Hathaway;

probate judge, O. B. Morse; attorney, G. M. Cameron; surveyor, A. D. Brown; coroner, P. C. Berry. Hathaway was elected register of deeds, otherwise the nominees of the Lansing school house convention were successful.

1869. Smith, the county treasurer, was under fire, and on March 16 his resignation was accepted. Litigation later arose in respect to his official conduct. Two years later the board of county commissioners ordered suit brought against him on account of money converted. October 15 the Republican county convention was held at Adams. The Page and anti-Page fight which occupied the boards in Mower county politics had now become serious. The Page faction claimed to be a reform movement and only sought office for the purpose of purifying the county politics by ousting the "ring."

The nominees of the convention were "Reform" men and were as follows: Representatives, W. G. Telfer, H. A. Brown; treasurer, J. S. Irgens; clerk of court, John F. Atherton; court commissioner, E. O. Wheeler. Sherman Page was elected chairman of the county central committee.

On the same day the Democratic convention was held at Austin and placed in nomination the following men: Representatives, G. M. Cameron, L. E. Pearce; treasurer, J. M. Wyckoff; clerk of court, C. J. Paddock; court commissioner, E. B. Clark. L. A. Sherwood ran independent for clerk of court. The election was a close one and the two parties obtained even honors. Cameron and Brown were sent to the legislature. Irgens was elected treasurer; Atherton, clerk. Clark was returned as being elected court commissioner by a plurality of one vote, but E. O. Wheeler was sworn in and held the office.

1870. The political complexion of the tickets were now Page and anti-Page. The Democratic ticket resolved itself into a "People's" ticket, in opposition to the Republican ticket which was known as a Page ticket. The Republican convention was held at Brownsdale October 11 and nominated the following men: Representatives, H. W. Page, W. G. Telfer; auditor, J. P. Williams; register of deeds, G. W. Robinson; sheriff, A. B. Meiggs; probate judge, Jesse Rose; attorney, L. Bourgard; surveyor, G. W. Clough. The People's convention was held the day previous and nominated the following: Representatives, A. E. Peek, A. D. Fairbanks; auditor, H. H. Shook; register of deeds, J. D. Allen; sheriff, Allan Mollison; attorney, G. M. Cameron; probate judge, L. N. Griffith; coroner, W. L. Hollister; surveyor, P. D. Vaughan. Dunnell was elected to congress over his Democratic opponent, Buck, by two to one, but all the county nominees on the Republican ticket met defeat. The campaign had been a mud-slinging one, the most scurrilous articles were published in the

papers and each party most bitterly denounced the other. It was a part of the Page and anti-Page fight which continued through the impeachment of Judge Page and even until his removal from the state some time thereafter, and which is handled elsewhere in this work.

CHAPTER L.

EARLY SETTLERS.

Land Office Records—Date of First Claims Taken in Each Township With the Names of the Pre-emptors—Honor Roll of Those Who Braved the Hardships of Pioneer Life and Fulfilled the Government Requirements of Actual Residence in the Earliest Days—Old Settlers' Association.

The question of the first actual settlement in a county is always a matter of doubt. This is the case of Mower county. The time has come when these questions should be agreed upon conclusively. There have been those in time past who have denied that the McQuillan party reached Racine in 1852. However, the fiftieth anniversary of this first settlement was duly celebrated in Austin in 1852, and the date is now generally agreed upon. In regard to the settlers of 1853, some would place many of the settlers of 1854 one year earlier in history. In those days the frontiersmen did not keep diaries, and their testimony in after years was vague and uncertain. However, it is certain that whatever forerunners of civilization came in in 1852 and 1853 no claims were filed until 1854, and the one claim filed that year is not now in Mower county. There were many claims filed upon in 1855 and a great number in 1856.

In previous chapters has been told the story of the early settlement of the various townships as commonly accepted in years past by the old settlers themselves. However, there is one infallible witness as to what settlers were actually here in the early days. The land office records of the United States government are still in existence, and these records show the actual settlers of the earliest days.

In the following article is given the names of those who pre-empted land in the days when the land was open to homestead settlement. The section, the name of the settler and the date the claim was proved up are given.

The names are dim and faded and often misspelled, while in some instances the handwriting is misleading. However, with the exception of minor mistakes which may occur in the spelling

of names the following is the correct list of the first homesteaders. In cases where the claimant entered land in more than one section only the first section is given.

Some of these settlers stayed and became distinguished citizens. Others moved away after selling their claims to others. But their names still remain on the honor roll of Mower county.

In the following list the lines of the government townships have been followed. Some of those given in Frankford are now included in the southern tier of townships in Racine, while a few given in Pleasant Valley and Racine were afterward cut off and put in Olmsted county:

Bennington. Township 102, range 14. The first claims taken in this township were in 1856. Those who filed that year were: 1—Henry M. Slater, August 23; Vernon Townsend, June 21; John Fegin, November 1; Seth A. Brooks, September 22; 2—John De Groodt, November 22; 3—James Marrin, December 2; 4—Samuel Bardin, December 3; 8—Johnston Horner, December 10; 9—John Gardner, December 8; William Wallace; December 6; John Sullivan, December 6; 10—William Haney, December 6; George W. Wood, November 25; Charles Lamb, November 13; 12—Nelson Moore, November 24; William Chadister, June 21; 13—Samuel B. Decker, May 9; 17—Robert Horner, December 10; William Horner, December 10. Those who took claims in 1857 were: 1—Charles L. Walker, January 15; Martin McTigue, September 14; 2—Charles N. Walker, January 15; George W. Campfield, September 5; 3—George W. Cummings, September 15; Frederick A. Abbott, May 5; Charles Watson, June 17; 4—Aaron Dunn, February 4; George Dunn, February 4; Martin F. Bigby, August 24; 5—Abial Sessions, June 8; Mary S. Baldwin, September 4; Basil Bishop, September 21; 8—Nicholas Blackman, July 1; John L. Ellis, July 1; 11—Seymour Cummings, October 10; James Hawks, August 27; William B. Nickolls, December 22; 13—Samuel Parks, September 5; Henry Guy, September 1; 14—Jacob Heidell, June 5; 15—Seeley W. Laraway, August 1; 22—Charles E. Peabody, September 1; Luther Bennett, November 7; 23—Joseph Purdie, January 2; Charles Simmons, January 2; 24—Hiram Pancost, August 19; George W. Farmer, August 19; 25—Luther T. Ninkler, September 14; 27—Joseph Meliveg, November 27; James N. Coe, September 24; 28—Benjamin Dorance, December 16; 30—Elisha Walden, September 3; 31—Herbert Farnsworth, September 3; John McFaddin, April 29; 32—John Walden, July 16; George T. Angel, June 9; 33—Henry S. Hathaway, October 15; 34—Willard C. Hull, September 24; Ann Page, October 6; Austin Cole, September 29; Richard Hall, October 6; 35—Henry Coe, September 24; Stephen B. Field, August 22; John Bary, September 29.

Lyle. Township 101, range 18. The first claims taken in this town were in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 3—James Foster, April 28; 4—Return B. Foster, April 28; 17—George W. Jordan, November 2. Those who filed in 1856 were: 3—Charles E. Bigelow, August 12; Van Ranslaer Petis, November 21; 4—John Phelps, July 21; Eben L. Merry, June 14; John Tifft, July 3; 7—Hannah E. Leverich, November 12; Charles Shepard, November 17; Matilda Leverich, November 12; 8—Charles D. Rice, June 30; 9—Robert Ralph, November 18; Robert P. Tifft, July 3; 10—John S. Gregg, November 21; 15—William A. Ware, December 26; Calvin W. Pierce, September 29; 17—Gilbert Bustin, November 18; 18—Orin M. Harris, July 30; 19—Samuel McCluer, October 17; 20—Alexander Johnson, September 4; Sam Ritter, August 14; D. J. Grant, September 29; 21—Ezra D. Ames, July 21; 22—D. J. Grant, September 29; Lyman Sprague, August 27; 27—Moses Gage, August 26; Matilda Sprague, November 28; 28—William Ford, November 19; Horace E. Sprague, November 20; 30—D. Mosher, November 18; 31—Robert Fletches, October 1; Edward Kesbaugh, October 3; James M. Garden, September 19; Henry Vanaker, September 19; 32—Thomas J. Duncas, June 20; Orlando Wilder, June 20; N. Wilder, June 20; 33—Fredrick Ebberts, November 28; Benjamin T. Coe, June 20; Joseph Richards, June 20; William N. Bean, June 20; 35—Herman Warner, December 18; Stephen R. Douglas, December 18; Joseph T. Donnivan, December 18.

Nevada. Township 101, range 17. Nearly all the first claims taken were in 1857. Those who filed that year were: 7—Alden H. Chaffin, September 22; Barnabas D. Nye, September 22; 8—Charles C. Oaks, December 2; 10—William G. Saunders, May 5; Ruben Jones, June 11; 14—William Gabespie, June 22; 15—Jonathan Waterman, September 23; 17—John S. Soules, November 14; George Joiner, June 11; 19—John Gairson, November 14; John McCourt, August 8; 21—Truman McKee, March 2; Edward Sampson, May 18; 23—Napoleon Davis, September 21; 24—Mark L. Laring, October 21; 25—Abner Forbes, October 21; 26—William H. Barrett, August 8; 27—Anders Anderson, October 12; Francis Hearsch, August 29; 29—Ole Severson, July 1. June 16, 1856, Torger Olsen filed on section thirty-two and three days later James Jured filed on section twenty-one.

Adams. Township 101, range 16. The first claims were taken in 1856. Those who filed were: 2—Albert Knudsen, October 29; John Olson, October 17; Thomas Kreston, November 7; 34—Albert Hart, December 20. Those who came in 1857 were: 4—Ole Jacobson, November 20; Henry Holland, September 17; Edward Maling, August 22; 6—Joseph H. Germain, August 15; John Bartorne, August 15; 9—Jens Tweed, July 24; Peter Straus,

August 5; John Johns, August 1; 15—R. Green, February 2; 21—Mathias Blake, April 28; Lyman Metcalf, May 26; 22—Samuel S. Barker, February 2; 30—Edmund Hart, September 11; 31—Robert Sloan, August 7; 33—John Floyd, April 28; 34—Albert Hart, December 20.

Lodi. Township 101, range 15. The first claims taken were in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 1—Edward B. Munsell, November 13; David Marty, November 10; 2—Edward B. Munsell, November 10; 6—C. G. Ripley, November 26; Eugene Wilson, November 26; Edw. Munsell, November 24; Reynold Olson, July 20; 10—Edmund Davis, November 8; Osman Hutchins, November 8; 11—Jesse Martz, November 10; Thomas Campbell, November 6; Edmund Davis, November 8; 12—Thomas Campbell, November 6; David Martz, November 10; Edward Owen, August 15; 13—Hugh Owens, November 8; Almond Frazer; July 16; John Owens, August 29; Benjamin Chamberlain, November 9; Nathan Updegraff, November 14; 14—Orlin Root, October 17; David Martz, November 10; James S. Wood, November 16; 15—Osmond Hutchins, November 8; 18—Martha Wetworth, May 23; 23—John Payne and Ezra Congden, November 5; 24—Ezra Congden, November 8; 25—Olson Congden, November 5; W. Hayes, November 9; 27—George W. Harris, November 26; 31—John C. Martin, November 15; Austin Carbin, November 19; Abraham Hay, November 15; 32—John H. McKeny, November 15; 35—Samuel W. Leigh, November 6.

Windon. Township 101, range 17. The first claims were taken in 1856. Those who filed this year were: 3—Stephen B. Gifford, November 15; 4—Quincy A. Truesdell, September 24; Gustavus C. Barker, November 10; Graham R. Scott, November 18; 5—Thomas Wilson, August 14; 6—Martin Maly, October 15; James Mann, November 28; 7—Bucklin H. Wood, July 31; Obediah Smith, October 29; Samuel Rice, June 30; James Lockard, October 22; John A. Thompson, July 31; 8—A. J. Thorp, September 25; 13—Jessie Little, November 5; 18—William H. Hotchkiss, November 18; 19—Thomas Brown, June 13; 20—O. Lawrence, June 20; Alfred Richardson, June 20; 21—George Shephard, November 11; Edgar W. Dewey, November 11; 22—Augustus Butler, November 14; 28—Peter Benson, November 11; Andrew Coon, November 11; Charles Shepard, November 11; 29—Hall Hoagland, November 18; 30—George N. Conkey, July 17; Horace Scofield, April 7; William Manderville, June 12; 31—Andrew P. Thompson, October 8; C. Pohler, April 2; John Banbring, April 2; 32—Firman Conover, April 16; 33—Charles E. Zurick, July 17; 34—John Stine, August 23; Wales Gudson, August 8; 34—Albert W. Griswold, August 23; Fredrick Pierce, August 18; 35—C. Shuber, November 6.

Marshall. Township 101, range 16. The first claims were made in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 2—Edward B. Munsel, April 24; 3—Abram H. Planty, July 11; Dexter Barrett, September 13; 4—William B. Updegraph, November 14; 5—Mitchell Lunney, September 22; 6—Peter Henyan, September 22; Supply C. Fop, October 13; John Hodgden, October 13; 7—Joel Parker, December 31; 17—Joshua Reed, September 11; 26—William N. Smith, November 26; 27—Jerimiah P. Boyle, September 3; 32—Christopher G. Ripley, November 26; 34—Filo S. Beers, November 6.

Clayton. Township 102, range 15. The first claims taken in this town were in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 2—John F. Randall, December 11; 3—Benjamin Wilson, December 11; John F. Peterson, December 20; 31—Phenias Wilcox, November 12; John Oleson, July 20; Christopher G. Ripley, November 26; 35—Andrew McDonald, December 11.

Le Roy. Township 101, range 14. The first claims taken were in 1855. Those who filed that year are: 19—P. Huntley, October 10; 20—A. D. Parks, October 10; 22—William M. Bishop, October 22; 27—Timothy Caswell, October 15; 28—Lester Congden, November 2; Frederick Bovee, November 2; Wentworth Hayes, October 25; 32—Ruben Allen, William H. Morrison, December 10; 34—Nathan McNeaill, A. J. Palmer, November 7.

Udolpho. Township 104, range 18. William B. Tullis filed on section twenty-one in 1855, October 10. Solomon Wilcox filed on section twenty-two November 14, and Silas Dutcher, Jr., and John G. Vaughan on section thirty-five the same month of the same year. Those who filed in 1856 were: 1—Jonathan Jameson, October 29; 2—Fredrich Lambrecht, August 26; 3—Obid Averill, November 8; 4—Niles Evertson, June 23; 5—Jacob Van Horn, October 28; 9—John R. Reed, July 12; 10—Thomas Reed, January 12; 11—John A. Scott, October 28; 12—Edwin Lester, October 28; 13—Nathan R. Weaver, July 24; William H. Pratt, November 17; 14—Lucas C. Hobert, October 30; 15—John Mopen, November 8; 17—Alfred Van Horn, October 28; 19—Knut Oleson, June 26; 20—William Pitt, November 1; Jonathan Mack, September 23; 21—Edw. Bassett, July 25; Levi Smith, July 17; Reuben Smith, September 17; 23—Joseph Reed, September 23; Hiram Luce, August 28; 24—Nathan Weaver, July 24; George Fowler, September 23; James B. Weaver, July 25; Henry C. Rogers, November 17; 25—Nathaniel N. Reed, November 17; George W. Durand, September 29; Abraham Bigler, October 16; 27—Timothy B. Andrews, September 29; Edwin Spersy, November 17; James Howard, November 2; John Johnson, November 2; 28—William Stephenson, September 24; Robert Stephenson, August 28; Herman Larr, September 23; Warren A. Brown, No-

vember 4; 29—Alfred Cooper, November 1; 30—Knudt Oleson, June 26; John Trickerson, July 21; 33—James Burt, July 24; Martin Weatherwax, July 24; 34—James Howard, November 2; Ivory Colloway, June 12; 35—Edward Ells, October 16; David L. Courtney, June 13; Ivory Collings, June 12.

Waltham. Township 104, range 17. Most all the land in this county was taken in 1856. Those who came in 1855 were: 7—George W. Evans, November 13; 19—John F. Peterson, December 20; Christopher G. Ripley, December 18; Gunder Neverson, May 27; 21—Bernard Develin, September 25; 22—Halvor Gunderson, May 24; Gunder Burgeson, August 18; 26—James Rice, November 21; 28—Simon Waller, April 27; 29—Mary E. Wood, November 16; 30—Henry Cobb, December 15; 31—Charles McElrath, August 29; Thomas Campbell, November 6; Buel Cobb, December 15; 32—John Tarr, September 27; 34—John Hodgden, October 13; 35—Eugene Wilson, November 26.

Sargeant. Township 104, range 16. The first claims in this town were taken in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 1—Thomas Campbell, November 6; Townsend W. Horton, December 12; 11—George W. Lemont, November 15; 12—Philo S. Beers, November 6; 13—James W. Jackson, November 14; Ole Erickson, July 20; Christopher Ripley, November 26; Edward Thorn, November 14; 23—Edward D. Munsell, November 24; 24—A. Knudson, July 20; 25—William Tuttle, November 15; 26—James Herman, May 26; Patrick Jordan, May 26; Halver Gunderson, May 24; Warren A. Sumner, November 15; 35—Frederick Pierson, August 14; Howard Cramer, June 26; Joel Parker, November 26.

Pleasant Valley. Township 104, range 15. One claim was taken in this township in 1854, September 23, by John Pierson. This claim is not now in Mower county. In 1855 James Welch filed on section twelve, June 29. Those who filed in 1856 were: 1—Frederick M. Pierson, January 25; Rosamund M. Calef, July 15; 2—Charles Berryman, August 18; 2—Sampson Berryman, August 18; 3—George Pease, August 6; Jacob Peiffer, August 6; Andrew McLellan, July 22; 4—John Powell, August 5; John King, November 21; 5—George Pearson, July 21; C. D. Knapp, September 21; 6—William Foot, August 5; George Church, August 5; Austin Joyce, September 14; 7—Thomas Joyce, July 9; James Edward, September 24; James Tripp, August 12; Mary Gowen, September 24; 9—Ezra Tual, September 9; 10—S. Munson, July 22; Patrick Jordon, December 1; 11—William Hill, August 7; 12—Cyrus Derby, July 7; 13—K. B. Pullen, August 25; Daniel Fisher, August 2; 14—Daniel Congden, July 16; 15—John D. Bartlett, July 17; William Finch, July 21; 17—Ezekel Hawkins, October 30; Joseph Vorse, October 30; 17—Stephen

Pratt, October 30; 18—Mary Gowan, September 24; Joel Sawyer, October 15; David Wells, October 24; 19—Charles Van Flick, October 27; Jerimiah Felton, October 23; Henry Slater, October 30; Zeno C. Brayton, October 30; 20—Edward Hallosan, December 2; Timothy Hallosan, December 2; William Wide-man, November 11; 22—Stelman Smith, November 24; Warren E. Pate, November 24; 24—George Peckham, October 26; Charles Pratt, November 19; 25—Daniel Twitchell, October 15; Charles Arthur, September 18; 26—Eri Baker, November 15; Benjamin Baker, November 15; 27—John Tuttle, December 9; 32—Cyril Wilson, December 12; 33—Eli Dunham, September 30; Abram Wilson, December 12; D. Baker, September 30; 34—William Harrison, November 17; John Orcutt, July 25; Wilbur Mosher, September 30; 35—Andrew Gorden, December 24; William W. Smith, October 28.

Racine. Township 104, range 14. Practically all the land in this township was taken in 1856. Those who came in 1855 were: 3—William V. Wooldridge, September 21; Noah Lincoln, September 21; 5—William Carson, May 19; 5—John Robinson, April 12; 6—John B. McCain, April 12; Henry K. White, April 11; 7—Frederick Brisgrove, November 8; 8—Charles L. Grannis, May 19; 10—William Buck, February 19.

Lansing. Township 103, range 18. The first claims taken in this town were in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 1—John L. Johnson, October 25; 11—John Pettibone, October 25; Jeremiah B. Yates, September 14; 14—V. P. Lewis, September 14; 27—Joseph Miller, October 10; 33—Oliver J. Beemis, November 17; 34—Joseph Miller, October 10; 35—David L. Smith, November 8. Those who came in 1856 were: 2—Alanson B. Vaughan, June 23; 3—Michael Burnus, June 16; 6—Lawrence Wallace, December 31; 8—James McIntire, December 31; 9—James C. Cummings, July 24; Joseph Miles, July 26; Rufus Kimball, August 13; 10—William Curtain, July 25; Enough G. Vaughan, June 13; John A. Hunke, June 12; 11—Peter Burns, March 7; 12—Samuel Gartin, September 25; John Degnan, September 25; 14—David Russel, August 6; Robert Crippen, May 12; 15—John Lyons, April 26; 17—Emery A. Snow, December 17; 18—Lowell Bullen, December 17; 21—Azariah H. Chapin, September 18; 22—H. C. Nutes, August 13; Hosea Day, May 23; John F. Cook, August 13; 23—Roland B. Malene, September 25; Silas Dutcher Len, July 7; Joseph Haskins, September 2; Samuel Dixon, October 15; 25—Harvey Wilkinson, September 2; Edw. Green, September 25; 26—Franklin Broundfoot, September 2; John Clanton, December 12; 27—Stephen Cook, November 25; Robert Dobbins, July 8; 28—A. Chapin, September 18; Harvey Allen, September 18; Joseph Lovel, August 6; 29—

George Baird, November 3; William Hunt, August 6; 30—William Bartlett, August 12; Robert Keornes, November 29; William Whitford, July 23; 31—William Yaw, July 9; Strange H. G. Rathborn, September 8; Marcus Whitford, July 23; Stephen L. Wood, September 8; 32—Even Nelson, September 16; Levi Watrous, August 12; Horace Silver, July 23; Marcus Whitford, July 23; Elishia Beeman, October 31; 33—William Thompson, June 30; Wilbour Kimball, July 16; George Hangmann, November 29; 34—J. P. Jones, July 3; William Baudler, July 7; Thomas Gilliland, May 23; 35—Homer Higgins, December 12; William Brown, July 22; Orvice Hudson, May 24.

Red Rock. The first claims taken in this town were in 1856. Those who filed that year were: 1—James Kanes, September 30; William H. Lewis, September 8; 2—Henry W. Stevenson, September 22; Abram E. Howard, September 30; John J. Malterson, October 3; John F. Hill, July 31; 3—John Cretzer, July 15; Willard Brown, April 21; Elizah Sanborn, April 21; Nehemiah Woodward, November 30; 4—Noal Stevens, March 17; Joseph Wilcox, July 14; 5—Washington Mason, October 25; John W. Woodward, November 20; Lyon King, July 15; 7—Solomon Coats, April 26; 8—Oliver Knox, July 14; 9—Dexter D. Hardy, September 11; Charles Atwood, June 18; 10—Henry Shook, July 15; Andrew Parkhurst, August 13; 11—George W. Dennis, April 7; Philip Millard, June 25; 14—Thomas Allred, June 25; John Fox, September 6; William Reeves, August 27; 15—R. C. Heath, June 25; Nathan Millard, June 25; E. F. Chase, August 5; Davis Bemis, August 13; 17—David Weaver, November 26; John B. Kinsley, November 26; 20—Inman J. R. Wright, July 22; Marriet J. Spooner, August 28; John Spooner, August 28; James Spooner, July 15; 21—James Steward, July 15; Ulysses Hoadley, July 22; Benjamin North, August 28; 22—Lewis Colby, August 5; Hampton Piper, September 30; 23—William H. Dotz, November 3; 24—William H. Brown, July 21; 29—Luke Page, August 19; Joseph Wright, August 9; 30—George Miller, April 16.

Grand Meadow. Township 103, range 15. The first claims were taken in 1856. Those who filed this year were: 1—Charles E. Thurber, September 13; Bruno Frank, April 2; George W. Williams, December 3; 2—Corinthia Williams, October 28; Daniel S. Satterton, September 19; Amos B. Stepenson, September 19; 3—Charles Arnold, July 24; Milo White, December 22; George C. Shaffer, September 22; 10—Jonathan Elwood, December 22; 11—Alfred Lee, September 27; 12—Benjamin Langworthy, October 15; Charles Schroth, September 1; 13—Mary McCabe, September 1; Andrew McCabe, September 13; Silas Garber, September 12; Arthur McNelly, July 9; Edw. Floyd, November 17; Sylvester Harris, November 3; 14—Peter Merier, September 29;

Joseph Campbell, August 30; 15—Gustave Maas, September 19; 22—Nelson Babcock, October 30; William Holhofer, September 19; 23—Philip Eppard, September 19; Paul McKinley, September 8; Nelson Smith, September 8; 24—Theodore B. Allbee, August 25; Edwin Lloyd, November 17; Joseph Allen, October 30; William Allen, August 25; Maxon L. Potter, November 3; 25—Barney McDonnough, November 22; 25—David Dewey, September 1; Nelson Manchester, November 14; 26—Stephen Wickham, November 22; Darbey Cobey, November 22; 35—Jerome Wicker, September 1; Jefferson Palmer, September 9; Joel Densmore, September 1.

Dexter. Township 103, range 16. Practically all the land in the township was taken in 1856. Those who came earlier and filed in 1855 were: 2—William D. Mead, November 26; Christopher G. Ripley, November 26; 11—Townsend N. Horton, December 12; 26—John F. Peterson, December 20; Edward B. Munsell, November 24; 31—William Updegraff, November 15; 32—Nathan Updegraff, November 15; 33—James W. Jackson, November 14; Dexter Parritt, September 26; 34—Michael J. Slaven, November 8; James Slaven, November 8; Edward Thorn, November 14; Simon Waller, July 11.

Frankford. Township 103, range 14. The first claims were taken in 1855. Those who filed that year were: 12—Lewis Chamberlain, October 19; 12—Charles H. Chamberlain, October 19; 13—Lewis Patchin, June 16; Jacob Olesen, August 25; 22—Egbert F. Ford, November 19; Byron Woodworth, October 20; 23—Griffin Fryer, June 16; 24—Philip Howell, October 16; 25—Ed. Willard, June 16; 25—Chas. B. Hansen, June 14. Those who filed in 1856 were: 1—William Campfield, May 19; Charles D. Sherwood, July 25; John D. Gregory, March 15; Joseph Robb, March 15; 2—David A. Hudson, December 12; John Lenerson, July 25; Obed B. Morse, July 25; 3—Charles Gorsen, June 17; Ezra Tricker, September 11; Andrew H. Trowt, December 12; 4—George A. VanDusen, December 9; John Nelson, July 7; Ole Juleson, October 25; 5—G. Elengson, June 17; Ole Hoodo, Jr., June 30; Ole Semonson, June 27; 6—A. J. Lindlin, June 30; John Amandson, September 16; Ole Oleson, June 30; 7—Benj. F. Manchester, August 30; Syer Oleson, September 16; Ellen Oleson, June 30; 7—Knut Nelson, September 16; 8—Calvin Boynton, August 7; Chas. L. Halstead, August 7; 10—Brice Ennis, August 1; Hiram Evans, November 13; 11—Thomas Murry, July 25; Aaron Lee, March 7; Lucius R. Bates, August 16; 12—Chas. E. Bent, June 17; Geo. Hunt, December 3; 13—Stephen Sherman, September 30; Gideon Sherman, August 13; J. Davis, June 14; 14—William F. Geummons, December 17; Samuel Titus, July 12; John Farquhar, March 28; David Donaldson, December 3; 15—

Michael Rhodes, August 8; John Rymal, August 8; Peter Winter, July 21; 17—John M. Smith, June 21; 18—John Morrow, October 6; William B. Nett, September 13; 19—John Kurtz, June 28; Theodore Ellbee, August 25; Timothy N. Smith, May 19; Caleb Knetz, September 12; William C. Allbee, August 25; 21—Miron L. Dean, September 13; Silas Grey, June 28; 22—Samuel Bardin, June 16; 23—Sarah Clark, February 29; Elizah Norton, May 27; 24—Alexander Stewart, May 27; James Willard, May 27; David Patchin, July 24; Otho D. Cretzer, May 27; 25—Edgar Willard, July 15; James Garman, March 28; 26—M. Delling, March 28; Lewis Hardy, September 8; W. D. Baldwin, July 24; Hagard W. Titus, June 28; 27—Stephen J. Colby, July 23; Nicholas Sanbury, July 23; 28—Alexander Smith, June 13; 29—Cornelius Fulton, August 26; James Donaldson, August 12; Geo. W. Jacobs, September 12; 30—Daniel Osmsly, August 30; John A. Eoffin, August 30; Emmett Densmore, September 1; 31—Davis Labor, September 9; 33—John Stewart, July 23; Robt. German, June 30; Geo. Melvin, July 24; 34—Henry Fullerton, July 12; William Campbell, August 27; Silus Wright, July 29; C. Ricketsen, July 24.

Austin. Township 102, range 18. The first claims were taken in 1855. Those who filed were: 1—Willard W. Smith, November 23; 2—John R. Roe, November 13; Chauncey Leverich, September 14; Geo. H. Bemis, November 17; 3—Benedict J. Brown, December 19; Dennis Crandal, November 13; 4—John Clemdunson, September 21; 14—Milton J. Woodson, November 6; 15—Daniel McPherson, November 23; 23—Ambrose C. Smith, November 23; 35—William Donglap, September 23.

OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

The first steps toward founding an Old Settlers' Association in Mower county was in June, 1884, when a call was issued for a reunion to be held at the court house in Austin, June 12, 1884. The committee consisted of John Frank, Thomas Gibson, C. H. Davidson, J. B. Yates, C. J. Felch and Thomas Varco. About 11 o'clock in the morning the exercises were commenced in the new court house hall, there being a large attendance of old settlers and friends, with a short address of welcome by the president of the association, Thomas Gibson, of Lansing. Prayer was then offered by Rev. S. G. Lowrey, an old settler of this vicinity, then in his eighty-fifth year. A song, "Altogether," was then sung by Mrs. L. A. Sherwood and Mrs. C. H. Davidson; Mrs. D. B. Johnson, the first organist in Austin, presided at the organ. Judge Ormanzo Allen gave the historical address, from which extracts appear in various parts of this history.

Judge Geo. M. Cameron then gave a short extemporaneous address. He said in part: "My first view of Austin was about twenty-eight years ago. I arrived one evening about dark, with only \$3.50 in my pocket. The first murder in the community was that of Chauncey Leverich. I regard that as a case of manslaughter, as it was not premeditated. Leverich came out of his saloon to administer chastisement, and was struck on the head with a wagon spring with greater violence than was intended. There was a case where a man, after drinking in a saloon, was found dead, evidently by foul means. Another case occurred where a Norwegian killed his son in a quarrel over a discussion of the question as to the route they should take home." Hon. John Frank, of LeRoy, was called upon, and responded by saying he had spent twenty-nine summers in Mower county and thirty winters. He proposed to stay thirty years more.

A letter from Hon. Moses K. Armstrong, of St. James, Minnesota, was then read by the secretary. The letter said in part: "Nearly thirty years ago I was county surveyor of Mower county, and laid out West Austin in town lots. There were about a dozen houses in Austin at that time. There was not a printing office in the county. I rode forty miles south of Austin into Iowa, to get election tickets printed; there were no railroads, and hardly a wagon bridge in the county. I swam the Cedar river at Austin on a blind white horse with my compass on my back to survey your town." Jerry Yates said he came into Mower county September 1, 1855. Lyman D. Baird was called out, as one of the first children born in Mower county, 1857. C. H. Huntington then read an original poem, written by Mrs. Mercy Greene. Timothy Chapman, of Spring Valley, first register of deeds of Mower county, came forward at the call of the audience, and spoke briefly of the occasion.

Jonas Hancy, P. F. Rooney, W. I. Brown, Dea. J. N. Cook, J. T. Sargent, Thos. Smith and others filled up the time of the morning session, with incidents of their experience in the early days. About half past one, as the dinner hour was at hand, the proceedings were checked, and an election of officers was held, with the following result: Thos. Gibson, president; J. B. Yates, vice-president; C. H. Davidson, secretary and treasurer. The banquet was served at the Mansfield House. Addresses followed by J. J. Furlong, of Windom; O. W. Shaw and C. L. West, of Austin; M. B. Slocum, of Rose Creek; A. Dickerson and T. F. Goslee, of Austin township, and Thomas Gibson, of Lansing. Knute Anderson Qvale, who came with one of the first two or three families that settled in Nevada township, in 1854, was called upon, and gave a brief account of his journey from Milwaukee by ox team and other incidents. It was then suggested

that the exercises be closed with the singing of the Doxology by George Baird. After the motion to adjourn was carried, all were invited to partake of an old settlers' smoke, C. H. Huntington, of Austin township, and F. O. McBride, the grocer, having furnished a wooden bowl of tobacco, fringed with clay pipes, which had been a conspicuous ornament on the judge's bench all day.

Since the time of that historic first meeting many interesting gatherings have been held, although the pioneers are one by one passing to their eternal reward. Banquets have been held, dinners together have been enjoyed, annual reunions have been well attended, and many an incident of the early days has been related for the remembrance of the old settlers and the pleasure of the younger generation. During the last years of last century and the first years of this one great interest was taken in these meetings by the people in general, and the newspapers each year published a list of the old settlers who had passed away during the previous year, giving a brief sketch of their lives and the year they came here. These clippings are carefully preserved in the minutes. The latest annual meeting given in the minute book is that of 1906, when the following officers were elected: President, M. J. Slaven; vice-president, Hans C. Anderson; secretary and treasurer, John C. Hawkins; chaplain, Alfred Cressey; executive committee, C. L. West, J. J. Furlong and L. Kirkland.

CHAPTER LI.

DAIRY INTERESTS.

Importance of the Dairy Industry in Mower County—A. V. Ellis, the Father of Dairy Farming in This Vicinity—Story of the Present Day Creameries—The Dairy Cow, Her Worth and Virtues.—By H. L. Banfield.

In writing the history of the dairy interests of Mower county, I feel that I must only touch upon the early history and relate that part of it that I am directly familiar with. As near as I can find out, the first steps taken in the direction of dairying were in the late seventies, after the great wheat failure.

In 1878 A. V. Ellis brought the first pair of pure bred dairy cattle into the county—a pair of registered Holstein-Fresians—and I consider him the father of dairying in this section of the state. How well he succeeded in this line need not be told here, but the beautiful farm he left behind him speaks volumes for his courage and perseverance.

I believe a little later the Turtle Creek cheese factory was started and a few years later a creamery was established in Aus-

tin. It was not until the late eighties and early nineties that the farmers' co-operative creameries began to start up. Then is when the farmers began to realize the importance of the dairy cow, and then is when dairying in this county received its impetus. The Waltham creamery, which began operations in 1889, was one of the first to start. Others followed in the next few years, until at the present time, the county has fourteen creameries, and one cheese factory, with about twelve other creameries, located within a few miles of the county line, and tributary to our county on all sides.

The Lansing Co-operative Creamery was incorporated February 15, 1895, with a capital of \$2,500. It started business in section 11, Lansing township, in a building purchased from the Lansing Cheese and Butter Manufacturing Company. The plant occupied the frame building until 1907, when a modern substantial building of brick and concrete was constructed. This is one of the finest creamery buildings in the state. In 1907 the capital was also increased to \$6,500. The business has increased from \$6,779.17 paid for butter to patrons in 1894, to \$49,698.29 in 1910. **The Waltham Creamery** started as a cheese factory in 1885. In 1889 it was changed to a creamery under the same management. At that time it was the second largest in the state. The factory is located in Waltham village. **The Red Rock Creamery Association** was incorporated in 1893 and changed management ten years later. Before that it did a business of from \$25,000 to \$50,000 a year. In 1910 the creamery made 190,000 pounds of butter. The plant is located in Brownsdale. **The Red Oak Grove Co-operative Creamery Company** was organized in 1892, and the plant is located in the northwest corner of section 6, Lansing township, in what is known as Corning village. The first officers and directors were: Halvor Kittleson, Halvor Thompson, O. G. Andersen, L. O. Aldal, N. K. Goodwin, James Taylor and John Peterson. The present officers and directors are: N. N. Goodwin, C. B. Christensen, Charles Kittleson, Simon Thompson, James Taylor, S. S. Ulland and O. A. Ulland. In 1910 the milk and cream received amounted to nearly 2,300,000 pounds, making over 160,000 pounds of butter, and paying an average price of 33¼ cents per pound. The total receipts and disbursements were nearly \$50,000. **The Nevada Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Association** was organized in the home of Ole Aslakson on February 13, 1894, with thirty-nine members and 260 cows pledged, with shares at \$5 per cow. The creamery is located on Jacob Jacobson's farm in Nevada township, and cost, with machinery, \$3,400. Business was commenced April 6, 1894. The first officers and directors were: Ole Aslakson, A. G. Ellingson, T. Guttormson, Jacob Jacobson and Sven Jacobson. The present officers and

directors are Ole Aslakson, C. K. Olson, Jacob Jacobson, G. Aslakson, Ole H. Lee, H. Ashleson and H. J. Hanson. **The Otter Creek Farmers' Creamery Company**, of Lyle, was organized in 1896, and is located in Lyle township. In 1910 the plant received nearly 800,000 pounds of milk and cream and made nearly 90,000 pounds of butter. The first officers and directors were: Charles Volstad, B. Bothum, K. Amundson, C. Meyer, O. Tieman, A. P. Martin, Ed N. Nilson. The present officers and directors are: A. Halvorsen, T. H. Murphy, C. Meyer, A. P. Martin, J. A. Thorstad, O. E. Hofland and K. L. Lendal. Other creameries in the county are: **Austin Dairy Company, North Star Dairy Company, Adams Creamery Company, Rose Creek Creamery Company, LeRoy Creamery Company, Dexter Creamery Company, Racine Creamery Company, Grand Meadow Creamery Company, and Mayville Cheese Company.** The story of these creameries is told elsewhere.

Great credit is due to the farmers of Mower county for fostering the co-operative creamery idea and there have been so few failures that the good work has gone on almost unrestrained until it is altogether our greatest industry. So with a soil that raises the best grasses in the world, I look to see the returns increased many fold as the years go on. The flavor that our butter gets from the sweet and nutritious grasses enables us to top the New York market with the product. We have at present nearly 17,000 cows actually assessed in the year 1910, and our slogan for the future is more and better cows. The income from our cows last year exceeded a half a million dollars, to say nothing of the fertility that went back onto the soil. The large returns from milk and butter in the past five years have encouraged the farmers to breed better cattle and the number that are using pure bred dairy sires has increased very materially in that time, and in another five years will add many full-blood and high-grade animals to our herds. Many full-blood and high-grade dairy herds have sprung up in the past few years. The dairy cow is queen of the farm and one of the greatest mortgage lifters in existence. She is virtually a machine which turns the products of the farms into greatest profit. In order to get the largest returns her ways and her disposition must be understood. She affects almost any branch of farming and she is the most economical producer on the farm.



BIOGRAPHIES

Jacob S. Decker is one of the earliest pioneers still living in Mower county. He was born in Flatbrookville, Sussex county, New Jersey, October 14, 1831, where his younger days were spent in school and on the farm. He was joined in marriage February 28, 1852, to Mary A. Smith, and on October 28, 1855, they started together for the West, where they hoped to establish their roof tree. They reached Colesburg, Iowa, later in the fall, and there spent the winter. In February, 1856, they started with oxen and teams for Minnesota, which was then a territory. At West Union the snow was so deep that he had to abandon the wagon and finish the journey with a sled. Arriving in Mower county February 25, 1856, he purchased a claim in township 102, range 18, now known as Austin. The purchase price of this claim was \$275. A log house, a well and three-fourths of an acre broken constituted all the improvements at that time. The family occupied the log house until 1860, then built a frame house, which was burned with all its contents in 1865. Then was erected the house which still stands, and which ranks with the best country homes in the county. To Mr. and Mrs. Decker have been born seven children: Arminda, Elizabeth, Calvin D., Chester H., Alonzo N., Silas D., and Edward W. Arminda and Silas D. are dead. Edward W. is vice-president and general manager of the Northwestern National Bank, at Minneapolis, president of the Twin City Bankers' Club, and president of the Twin City clearing house. Calvin is secretary of the board of regents and purchasing agent for the University of Minnesota. Jacob Decker has had an honorable and successful career, and has fathered a family of which he can well be proud. He has held many positions of public and private trust and honor, and is now living in retirement, enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. The founder of Mr. Decker's family in America was Thomas Decker, who came from England, and was one of the first settlers of Port Jervis, N. Y., then known by its Indian name of Mackachamack. His son, Daniel Decker, opened up and settled the country still known as Decker's Ferry, New Jersey, and his son, Thomas, died when in his ninety-fourth year. His son, Calvin Decker, spent his life in New Jersey, and died in the latter state in 1895. He married for his first wife, Christine Smith, who died in 1849, leaving eleven

children—Jacob S., Jonas S., Susanna, Elizabeth, Sarah Ann, Mary, Paul, Silas, Cynthia J., Thomas and Amzey. Calvin Decker married for his second wife, Margaret Dupue, and they had two children, Margaret, deceased, and Amanda, now living at Newton, N. J. Christine Smith, wife of Calvin Decker and mother of Jacob S. Decker, was the daughter of Jacob Smith, the son of Jonas, the son of John, a German by birth, who in colonial days settled on the Delaware river, in Pennsylvania. The parents of Mary Ann H. Smith, the wife of Jacob S. Decker, were Philip and Elizabeth Smith.

Chester H. Decker, successful hardware merchant, is a native born son of this township, having first seen the light of day May 26, 1861, in the home of Jacob S. and Mary Ann (Smith) Decker, his parents. He was reared on the farm, and attended the schools of his neighborhood, working on the home place until 1882, when he started to learn the carpenters' trade, an occupation he followed for four years. In 1886 he saw the possibilities of a first-class hardware store in the city of Austin, and he accordingly embarked in the business which he has since conducted. Mr. Decker is a believer in education, and for fourteen years has done efficient service on the Austin school board, of which body he is now treasurer. He is also a member of the Austin Commercial Club and affiliates with the Modern Woodmen of America and the United Workmen. He was married October 20, 1887, to Ada C. Douglad, and to this union have been born two children. The oldest, Leonard R., graduated from the Austin high school in 1908 and is now in charge of the manual training and blacksmithing department of the Southern Minnesota Normal College, of Austin. Fred R. is clerk in the hardware store for his father. The subject of this sketch first purchased an interest in the hardware business with Col. A. W. Wright, and in 1896 formed a partnership with his brother, C. D. Decker, the firm name since that date having been Decker Brothers. Mr. Decker also has other business interests and is a director in the Austin Building and Loan Association. His residence is at 305 West Water street.

James H. Aultfather, a scientific farmer and prize stock breeder, of Austin township, was born on the farm where he now lives, September 16, 1874, son of David and Pamela (Foster) Aultfather, the pioneers. He attended the schools which were in existence in his neighborhood, and also the Austin high school, supplementing this with a course in the Northwestern College of Commerce in the same city. After completing his schooling he returned to the farm where he has since carried on farming operations. He owns 160 acres, highly cultivated, and some comfortable out-buildings for the housing of stock. In 1901 he built a fine new residence for himself. He has a herd of some fifty thor-

oughbred Red Poll cattle, and for four years has taken prizes on this herd at the Minnesota State fair, his awards in 1910 aggregating \$500. He also breeds some fine Percheron horses and has a large herd of pure bred Poland China swine. Mr. Aultfather is an independent voter, has been town supervisor for several years, and associates with the Masonic order. The subject of this sketch was married December 4, 1901, to C. Mabel Varco, and they have one bright son, Myron C., born December 26, 1907.

David Aultfather, a pioneer, was born in Ohio, and came to Austin township in 1856. Here he married Pamela Foster, who was born in New Jersey, and came to Mower county with the earliest settlers of what is now known as Lyle township in 1854: her father, James Foster, being one of the earliest arrivals in this county. David Aultfather, upon his arrival in Austin township, took 120 acres of government land for which he paid \$1.25 an acre. This land he broke and improved, built a house, and had the usual experiences of a pioneer in a wild country. In time he added to his possessions until he owned 1,560 acres, all in Mower county, his original house was replaced with a comfortable residence, his stock which once was sheltered by a few boughs hastily cut was placed in modern barns, and what had been wild land blossomed under the toil of the laborers. Desiring to see his nine children well started in life, he gave to each, as each attained his or her majority, a quarter section of land. But a greater heritage still was the record of unswerving honor with which he left his name connected for all time. He died, ripe in years and character and knowledge, November 19, 1899. His wife is still living at the good old age of 70 years.

Andrew H. Anderson, now deceased, prominent citizen of Lyle, and for many years president of the First National Bank of Lyle, which institution he organized, was born in Drammen, Norway, November 15, 1843, and came to America in 1852 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Anderson. They stopped in Racine, Wis., and the following spring went to St. Ansgar, Iowa, where they engaged in farming. Andrew H. remained at home until 28 years of age, and then went to Nebraska, where he took a homestead and remained for seven years. Later he moved to Wahoo, Neb., and engaged in the lumber business until 1880. In that year he came to Lyle, and after engaging in the hardware business ten years opened a private bank, which in 1901 was reorganized as the First National Bank, Mr. Anderson becoming its first president, a position he held at the time of his death. Mr. Anderson did much for the growth of Lyle. He acted as village treasurer twenty years, and was a member of the school board for many terms. He was liberal, broad minded and charitable, and a truly representative citizen. The subject of this sketch was

first married December 28, 1871, to Barbro Oline Blakestad, who died April 4, 1888, leaving six children: H. O., who is in the implement and machine business at Crookston, Minn.; Anna M., who is now Mrs. W. R. Hunter, of Lyle; Bertha L., now Mrs. B. J. Robertson, whose husband is postmaster at Lyle; Ida E., of Lyle, a music teacher; Ralph Arthur, a Lyle banker, and Rufus, now a teller in the Merchants' Bank, at Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Anderson was married the second time to Mrs. Christine M. Craig, who died in October, 1900. In February, 1903, he married Mrs. Anne Myhre, who survives him. He died October 29, 1910.

Ralph Arthur Anderson, banker of Lyle, was born in Lyle, March 13, 1884, second son of Andrew H. Anderson. He attended the village schools, and started work in his father's private bank as assistant cashier. He also worked in the bank at Rose Creek for a while. In 1903 he went to Crookston, Minn., and for two years worked in the abstract office of Christianson & Strander. Later he became a bookkeeper in the First National Bank, of Crookston, a position he held with credit until April, 1910, when he entered the First National Bank of Lyle, to look after his father's interests. Mr. Anderson is a popular member of the K. of P., B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A. and is well liked by his fellows. After the death of his father he was appointed village treasurer, and was elected to the office in 1911.

Erick Alrick, who farms on land that has been in his family for over half a century, was born on the old homestead in Adams township in 1865, and with the exception of periods when he was engaged in business in Iowa, has since resided there. He was reared in the home of his parents, Andrew A. and Sarah Alrick, and attended the district schools. At 26 years of age he went to Thompson, Iowa, took a partner and began business, carrying a full line of hardware and agricultural implements. This business was successful, and in it Mr. Alrick continued for ten years. In 1901 he sold his interest to A. B. Larson, and returned to Adams township to take charge of the old homestead which he has since conducted. He has devoted much of his time to breeding Herefords and raising grain, and he makes a specialty of hogs, having raised Poland Chinas and Warwickshires. He is now acquiring a well developed breed of Reds. In working his 240 acres he uses ten horses and hires considerable help during the busy season. Mr. Alrick is a Republican. He was married in 1898 to Julia Hamlin, and he and his wife attend the Lutheran church.

Andrew A. Alrick, and Sarah Alrick, his wife, were born in Norway and came to America in 1856, locating in Wisconsin, where they remained for years. Then they started with two yoke of oxen and their household goods in a prairie schooner for Minnesota, arriving in Adams after a journey of many hardships.



ALEXANDER S. CAMPBELL.

They homesteaded a quarter section and here ended their days, being respected and honored throughout the community as hard-working and industrious people.

Anton B. Asper, a self-made man of Marshall township, has made his way in life with no help and little encouragement, and has acquired a competence and extensive land possessions entirely through his own efforts. He came to America in 1871, engaged in railroad work in Iowa three years, and then came to Mower county and railroading in Adams until he acquired sufficient funds to purchase eighty acres in Marshall township. He now owns 330 acres, carries on general farming on an extensive scale, and owns fifteen cows, his specialty being the sale of cream. He is a Republican in politics and has served on the school board of District 65 for four years. Anton B. Asper was married in 1876 to Julia Johnson, daughter of Arne Johnson, of Wisconsin, and this union has been blessed with seven children: Louie is married and lives in Marshall township; Alex is married and lives in the township of Clayton; Bennie is married and lives in Adams township; Tillie, Clara, Oscar and Alma are at home. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Alexander S. Campbell, leading merchant-miller of Mower county, former state senator, present mayor of Austin, is a native born son of Minnesota, and has taken his share in the upbuilding of his adopted city and county. He was born in Rice county, December 20, 1859, and received his early education in the county and village schools, also attending the public schools of Minneapolis for a while. After leaving school he worked on the home farm, and at about the time of attaining his majority went to Owatonna, where he learned the milling and flouring business. In 1886, in company with his brother, L. G. Campbell, he engaged in the milling business in Austin, and purchased a small mill near the C., M. & St. P. station. This business grew, and in 1890 they purchased the large plant on the east side of the Red Cedar river on Water street. The firm also took control of the milling plant at Blooming Prairie, L. G. taking the management. In 1909 the L. G. Campbell Milling Company was incorporated at Owatonna, with the Blooming Prairie plant as a part of its holdings, and Alexander S. is now the owner of the Austin plant, which turns out over two hundred barrels of flour a day. The product of this mill is widely known throughout the northwest, and such brands as the Diamond White, White Rose and Peerless represent the highest development in the miller's art. Mr. Campbell served in the Minnesota senate in 1903, 1905, 1907 and 1909, and was mayor of Austin in 1899, 1900 and 1910-11, his public service having given the greatest degree of satisfaction. He is active in the Austin Commercial club, and is also affiliated with

the Masonic order, the B. P. O. E., the K. of P. and other organizations. Mr. Campbell was married December 20, 1883, to Mary Hunkins, of Owatonna, and they have four children, Minnie C., Alexander K., Francis and Neil. John and Catherine (Graham) Campbell, parents of A. S. Campbell, are descended from the ancient Campbell and Graham clans of the Scottish highlands, John Campbell being born near Glasgow and his wife in Canada. He settled in Milwaukee in 1856 and took up railroad contracting. He afterwards located near Northfield, Minn., and carried on general farming until 1868. He then moved to Claremont in Dodge county and engaged in the same occupation, giving special attention to grain and stock raising, until 1889, when he came to Austin, where he and his wife still reside.

F. M. Dufty is one of those men who possess what Shakespeare so aptly called the "Milk of human kindness," and for a generation to come the people of his neighborhood will recall his big souled hospitality and kindness which has given joy to so many people. His home has been the stopping place for ministers preaching in the vicinity for the past three decades, and every child in the neighborhood, as well as many a child now grown to manhood and womanhood, recalls with pleasure the delightful hours spent in the Dufty home, where they are always made welcome, and where much has been done for their comfort and happiness. His fondness for children is one of Mr. Dufty's most delightful characteristics, and his hand is ever ready to assist all young people. Mr. Dufty was born in Canada, October 15, 1847, son of John and Sarah (Keeley) Dufty. His father died in 1853, and at the age of seven years F. M. was brought to the United States by his mother. He grew to manhood in Wisconsin, and in 1875 came to Mower county, purchasing sixty acres in section 3, Lyle township. To this he added until at one time he owned 480 acres. He now possesses 360 acres in sections 3 and 4. Since 1907 he has left the management of his farm largely to his sons. Aside from his property in Lyle township he owns building lots in Austin, and 800 acres in Burleigh county, North Dakota, as well as half a section in Rosseau county, and a quarter section in Beltrami county, in Minnesota. Mr. Dufty is a temperance Republican. He has served on the town board, and he and his wife have both been members of the school board. He was married in 1878 to Fannie J. Powers, who died in 1895, leaving seven children: Avery J., proprietor and manager of the Normal restaurant; Alma, married to Claude Howard, a banker, of Freeborn, Minn.; Della, who is now the wife of Joseph Lewis, of Grand Meadow; Mary, wife of H. L. Dawson, express mail clerk, of Albert Lea; George, of Beltrami county, married to Selma Johnson; Jay, who lives on the old homestead, and Jesse, who is

a student in the Southern Minnesota Normal college. John and Sarah (Keeley) Dufty were natives of Nottinghamshire, England, and as young people came to Canada, where they were married. The former, who was a watchmaker and gunsmith by trade, died in 1853, and the latter came to southern Wisconsin, where she remained until 1902, when she came to Minnesota, and died in Austin in 1904.

B. F. Carll, a well-to-do farmer of Lansing township, was born in Arcadia, Wayne county, New York, December 2, 1854, and grew to manhood in New York state. In 1871 he came west with his father, and settled on land that his father had purchased in Udolpho the previous year. Benjamin's early manhood was passed on this farm, and when he was twenty-two years of age he purchased a farm in Waltham township and lived there five years. Then in 1885 he moved back on the old farm, lived there six years, then went to Michigan and stayed seven years. After his return to Mower county he bought out his father's heirs, and thus secured possession of the home farm, which he subsequently conducted five years. He is now living on the old Williams place in the town of Lansing. Mr. Carll is a member of the Masonic order. The subject of this sketch married Etta Fifield, daughter of John S. and Rhoda (Pope) Fifield, natives of Michigan, the former of whom was a prominent farmer in Jackson county. Mr. and Mrs. Carll have one daughter, now Mrs. George Clement.

Samuel Carll, a native of Maine, moved to New York state in 1812. In 1869 he came west and purchased a half section from R. F. Leighton in Udolpho township. He then returned to New York state, and two years later came back to his farm in Mower county, bringing with him his son, B. F. Samuel Carll died in 1878, and his wife, Jane Drake, passed away in 1901.

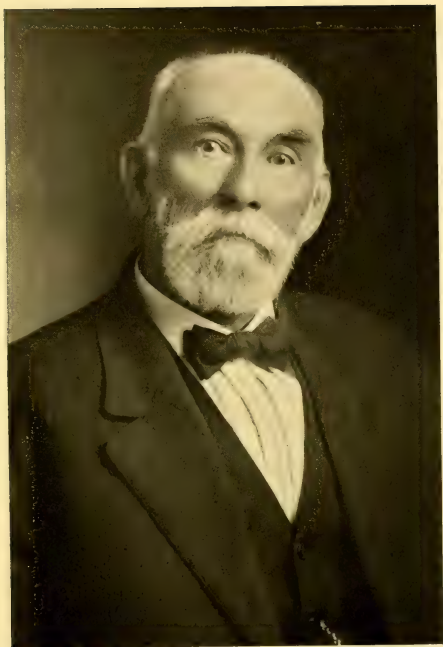
Sven Anderson, of Austin, garage and monument man, was born in Sweden, June 7, 1842, son of Samuel and Mary (Gustafson) Anderson, who lived and died in the old country. Sven came to America in 1869, located in Austin, and worked a few weeks on the railroad. Then he worked out for a time farming and in 1870 rented a farm in Austin township for one year. Then he worked for the McCormick Harvester Company five years, and afterward purchased a farm in Marshall township, this county. On this farm he remained eight years and then came to Austin, and started dealing in machinery. In 1896 he started in the machine business for himself, and later took up the sale of monuments with his son, John H. Anderson, in which business he has been very successful. In 1910 he opened a garage and buys, rents and sells several makes of automobiles. Mr. Anderson is a Republican and while in Marshall township was supervisor of the township for a time. He was also deputy sheriff for six years. The subject of

this sketch has allied himself with the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the Masonic order, in which latter body he belongs both to the Blue lodge and to the chapter. He was married January 13, 1864, to Anna C. Anderson, and to this union have been born six children—Albert, John, Axel, who died aged 24; George E., the assistant postmaster at Austin; Arthur, Herbert and Esther E., the latter being Mrs. Arthur Carlson. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

William T. Adams was born in Illinois, March 29, 1860, and came to this part of the country in 1881. He was a telegraph operator for a number of years for the railroad, and then became a successful farmer in section 17, Udolpho township. He married in 1885, his wife being Jennie M. Washburn, daughter of Seth S. and Julia A. (McQuivey) Washburn, and they have six children—Edgarda T., Beatrice, Mary F., John Q., Stanley E., Theodore R.

Seth S. Washburn, early settler of Udolpho township, was born in Bethel, Vt., June 11, 1826, son of James and Ruth (Sanford) Washburn, both natives of Massachusetts, the former born in 1783 and the latter in 1785, moving to Vermont in 1785. The parents of Ruth Sanford also moved to Vermont when young, were there married, and there died, the father May 9, 1861, and the mother November 18, 1869. Before marrying Ruth Sanford, James Washburn married Polly Chadwick in 1806. She died in 1815. Seth S. Washburn was the fourth of five children born to James Washburn by Ruth Sanford. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on the farm and received a district school education. He was married in Vermont, September 4, 1853, to Julia A. McQuivey, born in Vermont, July 4, 1825. In the fall of 1856 Seth S. Washburn left his native state and with his family settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he remained a short time. In May, 1857, he came to Mower county and after a brief stay in Udolpho township took up a claim in section 17. His wife died June 14, 1881, having borne to her husband six children, Sanford S., Jennie M., Hattie L., Emma H., James L. (deceased), and Julius E., deceased. Honorable Sanford S. Washburn, after serving some years as probate judge of Mower county, lives in Washington; Emma H. is the wife of J. P. Rogers, of Newport, Minn., and Hattie makes her home with her.

Hosmer A. Brown, one of the substantial and honored citizens of Mower county, and after whom the thriving village of Brownsdale was named, was born in North Stonington, Conn., September 30, 1830, son of Matthew and Lucy (Denison) Brown, natives of the Nutmeg state, who lived on an old homestead, which had been held within the family since the first settlement of Stonington. The property is still in the family. The parents lived on this farm until their death, the mother dying in 1849 and the father



HOSMER A. BROWN.

in 1860. They raised a family of four children, three boys and one girl, Hosmer A. being the youngest. He received his education in the common schools and then learned the carpenter trade. In the fall of 1851, Mr. Brown went by the way of the Isthmus to California and engaged in mining for a period of two years, after which he received contracts for erecting government buildings at Fort Point, San Francisco. He followed this business until the spring of 1855, when he took passage on board the steamer "Golden Age" for home. When within 300 miles of Panama and off the island of Kakerá the vessel struck a reef and stove a hole in her bow. The vessel was run ashore but soon filled with water and sank on the beach. Mr. Brown, having had experience in making pumps and draining mines in California, was employed by the captain to assist in stopping the leaks and getting the vessel afloat, which was accomplished on the ninth day, after which they set sail for the British dry docks on the island Toboga. For his services, Mr. Brown received from the steamship company \$500 in the way of a donation. After remaining thirty days on the island he crossed the Isthmus and came on the steamer "Illinois," from there to his home in Connecticut, where he spent the summer. In the fall Mr. Brown started for Kansas. On reaching Ft. Des Moines, Ia., he heard so much of the troubles there that he changed his mind and came to Minnesota, arriving at Spring Valley, Fillmore county, December, and there spent the winter. In April, 1856, he, in company with his brother, Andrew D., who had come from Connecticut that spring, came to Red Rock township, this county, Hosmer A. entering the northeast quarter of section 9 with a land warrant given his father for services in the war of 1812. He also bought of a Norwegian the southeast quarter of section 9. Mr. Brown and his brother, together with John L. Johnson, were the original proprietors of the townsite of Brownsdale, where Mr. Brown's brother erected one of the first sawmills in Mower county. In the fall of 1870 Mr. Brown was elected to the legislature and served that term. The same year he secured the location of the Southern-Minnesota R. R. at Brownsdale.

Hosmer A. Brown was married in St. Paul January 1, 1870, to Mary L. Frink, born in North Stonington, Conn., her parents being Joseph and Lucy (Billings Coals) Frink, natives of Connecticut. The father was a soldier of the war of 1812. The mother died in 1866, aged 66. The father died in 1871 while visiting his son-in-law, Dr. William A. Babcock, in Illinois. Mrs. Brown received her education at the Suffield Literary Institute, at Suffield, Conn.

William L. Hollister, M. D., retired physician and surgeon, and former state senator in 1883 and member of the legislature in 1897, was born in the town of Sharon, Schoharie county, New

York, January 9, 1837, his father being Luther Hollister. William assisted his father on the farm, and attended the schools of his neighborhood. He started the study of medicine with Dr. A. H. Knapp as his preceptor, and then entered the Albany Medical college, graduating in 1861. After receiving his diploma he started practice in Stuyvesant, Green county, New York, but at the end of two years removed to Kingston, where he stayed until 1867. In that year he came west, locating in Lansing, this county, and continued practice there four years. In 1871 he came to Austin, where, with the exception of the time devoted to public office, he practiced continuously until ten years ago, when he retired. In 1883 he was elected to represent this district in the state senate. In May, 1883, he received an appointment as internal revenue agent, and in 1907 again went to the state legislature. He also served as coroner many terms, and many years as pension examiner. Dr. Hollister is a member of the Masonic order and of the Elks. He was married January 9, 1862, to Mary E. Beatty, daughter of William Beatty, a bricklayer. Mrs. Hollister was born at Cossackie, N. Y., March 27, 1837, and to her union with William L. Hollister three children were born. Lansing O. is the only one living; Clarence and John F. being dead.

Christian A. Hegge, M. D., skilled practitioner of Austin, one of the members of the firm of Hegge & Hegge, physicians and surgeons, was born in Biri, Norway, April 23, 1866. He attended school in Norway, and came to America in 1887. He at once entered the Augsburg Seminary, at Minneapolis, and after two years entered the scientific department of the University of Minnesota. In 1890 he entered the medical department of the University of Illinois, graduating in 1893. After a year spent as an interne in the city hospital at Minneapolis, he came to Austin in 1894, and in partnership with his brother, Olav H., started the practice of medicine. In 1900 he took a post-graduate course at the Chicago Clinical School, in 1903 attended clinics in Germany, England and the Scandinavian countries, in 1906 attended the Chicago Polyclinic, and in 1908 at the Chicago Post-Graduate School. For twelve years he has been one of the physicians and surgeons at St. Olav's hospital, in Austin, which he and his brother founded. Dr. Christian A. Hegge belongs to the American, state and county medical associations, and has been secretary of the latter two years. He belongs to the Masons and the Maccabees and votes the Democratic ticket. The subject of this sketch was married May 14, 1895, and to this union have been born two children, Nina, July 31, 1896, and Agnes, February 9, 1899, the wife's name being Isabella Dalager. The family residence is at 916 Lansing avenue.

Olav H. Hegge, A. B., M. D., a well-known doctor of Austin, one of the members of the firm of Hegge & Hegge, physicians

and surgeons, was born in Biri, Norway, March 20, 1872, and there received his earlier education. He came to America in 1889, entered the University of Minnesota, and then the medical department of the University of Illinois, graduating in 1893. Then he spent one year as an interne in the Bethesda Hospital, St. Paul, and in 1894 came to Austin, where he joined his brother, C. A. For twelve years Dr. Olav H. Hegge has been one of the physicians and surgeons at St. Olav's Hospital, of which he was the real founder. In 1903 Dr. O. H. Hegge spent a year attending clinics in Germany, England and the Scandinavian countries. He has also taken a number of post-graduate courses in the leading post-graduate schools of New York, Chicago and New Orleans. He belongs to the American, state and county medical associations, and was secretary of the latter organization one year. He is a Mason, a Republican in politics, and a member of the Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch was married April 20, 1898, to Stella L. Johnson, and this union has been blessed with three children—Milda, Rolv and Valfrid. The family home is at 811 High street in Austin.

Alden A. Hickok was born in Green county, Wisconsin, December 23, 1856, son of John H. and Christy S. (Bennett) Hickok. He was brought to Mower county by his parents in 1863 and attended the district schools and the Austin high school. He taught school winters and worked on the farm at home summers until twenty-six years of age, and then went to Minneapolis, where, after working in the shipping room and offices of a wholesale furniture manufacturing company for a time, he went on the road as a traveling salesman for the same concern for six years. After this he again returned to Mower county, and after three years of teaching purchased the old home farm of eighty acres, on which he now conducts general farming. He was elected assessor in 1904, and with the exception of the year 1905 has held that position continuously. Mr. Hickok was married March 30, 1892, to Lillie M. Bishop, of LeRoy village, and to this union have been born ten children—Otto B., Mina Belle, Christea May, Helen C., Adson M., Lilliam L., Lou Thorne, Etta E., Alice A. and Nathan J., all of whom, with the exception of Mina Belle, who is attending high school in LeRoy, are still at home.

John H. Hickok, who came to Austin township in early war times, was born in Ohio in 1830 and came to Green county, Wisconsin, in 1846, his people coming some time later. He married Christy S. Bennett, who came with her parents about the same time, in 1853. In 1863 John H. Hickok and his family came to Mower county, and here he preempted eighty acres of land in Lyle township, selling out his claim a year later. In the early days he helped to build the historic old Gregson-Officer mill. Mr. Hickok

followed general farming on his farm in section 25, Austin township, which he bought in 1865, until 1891, when he retired and moved to Austin, where his wife died in August, 1905, and where he passed away in November, 1908. Mr. Hickok was assessor of Austin, with the exception of one year, from 1872 to 1891. Of his children, Alden A. is assessor of Austin township; Mrs. W. W. Hommel lives in Austin and has two children, Harry and Meda; Mrs. H. R. Campbell also lives in Austin, and E. H. died in November, 1909, leaving his widow, Elizabeth, and three children—Beatrice, Ray and Walter, likewise living in Austin.

George Hirsh, one of the leading merchants of Austin, has been engaged in the retail trade since early manhood. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, March 19, 1856, son of Isaiah and Rosa (Stern) Hirsh, the former of whom was a grain dealer. The father died in 1882 and the mother one year later. George received his education in the schools of Germany and then came to America in 1873. He took up peddling of dry goods and notions in New York state and Vermont for seven years. In 1880 he went west and opened a meat market and grocery store in Chicago, conducting same for four years. The clothing business then occupied his attention in Council Grove, Kan. In 1887 he came to Austin, where he has since remained. Opening with a stock of clothing and men's shoes, he gradually increased his business, until it reached the proportions which justified the erection of a fine block in 1900. This block is located on the corner of Main and Water streets, and is two stories in height, 95x100 feet. The ground floor is devoted to his store and auditorium, while the upper floor contains lodge rooms and offices. Mr. Hirsh is a member of the board of education of Austin, and has served as chairman of the County Republican Central Committee. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and also belongs to the Austin Commercial Club. Mr. Hirsh was married February 12, 1895, at Neenah, Wis., to Eva Billstein, and this union has been blessed with three children—Rephah B., Elizabeth F. and Alexander I., all at home. Aside from his business block, Mr. Hirsh owns a pleasant home at the corner of Courtland and Greenwich streets.

Joel A. Hart, now deceased, was a farmer in Austin township in the years following the Civil war. He was a substantial citizen, and was much respected at the time of his death, December 28, 1882. By his union with Amy Varco, born in Canada, daughter of Thomas and Emaline (Eddy) Varco, he had three children: Eugene V., Orrie and Jennie. Eugene V. married Rachel Brooks and they have two children: Irene and Bernice. Jennie is now Mrs. Sheppplay and is the mother of three children, Marjerie, Amy and Ruby. Eugene V. now conducts the home farm in Austin



O. J. HILL





MR. AND MRS. THOMAS VARCO.

township and Mrs. Hart has made her home in the city for many years.

Thomas Varco, one of the earliest settlers, was born in England and moved at an early date to Canada, where he married Emaline Eddy, who was born in Coberg, Ontario, and is still living at the good old age of 84. The family moved to Wisconsin, there remained six years, and then came to Austin, arriving July 24, 1856. A daughter, Mrs. Amy Hart, now living in Austin, well remembers this long and tedious trip to Austin by ox cart. Thomas Varco was a farmer and raised a family of eight children, of whom five are living: Amy, now Mrs. Joel A. Hart; Maitland, who married Hattie Bowers; Charles, who married Isabell Gammel; Jennie, now Mrs. Berton Hart, and Justin, who married Etta Streeter and manages the home farm. Thomas Varco died February 12, 1893.

O. J. Hill, a retired farmer now living in Austin, dates his residence in Mower county from 1857. He was born in Carroll county, New Hampshire, March 8, 1835, son of James and Sally (Brown) Hill, both natives of New Hampshire, the former dying in that state and the latter coming to Red Rock township in 1857, and there ending her days. O. J. received his education in the district schools, moved to Oshkosh in 1853 and then in 1857 came to Mower county, making the trip by ox team, which took four weeks, locating in Red Rock township. He purchased 160 acres of government land at \$2.50 an acre and later acquired 200 acres of railroad land. Still later he purchased 220 acres, owning at the present time 480 acres, all of which he developed and improved, and nearly all of which he broke. Here he built a beautiful home and followed general farming successfully until 1898, when he retired and moved to Austin, where he now resides. While on the farm he made a specialty of breeding fine stock, especially Red Polls and Shorthorns. He sold four different teams which he raised for \$400 a pair. For six years Mr. Hill was chairman of Red Rock township, and he also served various terms on the school board and as pathmaster. He is a Republican in politics. The subject of this sketch was married March 6, 1862, to Frances Ransom, of Ripon, Wis., whose father erected the first house in Oshkosh. To this union have been born seven children: Walter J., of Oregon; Arthur H., of Oelwein, Iowa; Eliza G., wife of C. F. Lewis; Edmund T., who occupies the old farm in Red Rock township; Laura J., James O. and Sallie E. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church.

Ralph P. Crane, lumberman, of Austin, was born in this city April 21, 1887, son of Frank I. and Sylvia (Pettibone) Crane, the pioneers. He received his education in the Austin schools, and graduated from the Austin high school in 1905, afterward taking

courses at Carleton College, Northfield; the University of Minnesota, at Minneapolis, and the Cornell University, at Ithaca, N. Y., taking law studies in the latter institution. In July, 1909, he took up the lumber business in Austin with his father, and at the time of the latter's death took full charge of the business. While at college he was admitted to the fellowship of the Alpha Delta Phi, one of the Greek letter fraternities, and since then he has allied himself with the Masonic order. He is president of the Austin and Mower County Automobile Club and also a member of the Austin Commercial Club.

Benjamin Hilker, a veteran of the Civil war, now deceased, and for many years a well-liked resident of Austin, was born in Preston, Ontario, November 22, 1843, and as a boy moved with his parents to Fort Elgin, Ontario, where he grew to manhood. He was married there January 22, 1869, to Abigail Detwiler, daughter of John R. Detwiler. Mr. and Mrs. Hilker came west in 1873, and settled in Lansing, where they lived on a farm for twelve years. In 1885 they moved to Austin, where the family has since resided. For three years Mr. Hilker was in the meat business with Fiehn & McMann. Later he worked at the trade of mason and house mover. During the Civil war, while at work in the Michigan woods, he enlisted at Flint, Mich., in Co. I, 30th Mich. Vol. Inf., in 1864, serving until the close of the war. He died September 10, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Hilker had five children: Mrs. Dell Roberts, John Hilker, Mrs. Eugene Fairbanks, Albert Hilker and Mrs. Charles Pitcher. Abigail Detwiler Hilker, widow of Benjamin Hilker, now makes her home at 400 Water street, Austin. She was born in Roseville, Ontario, Canada, and is the daughter of John R. and Nancy (Dodge) Detwiler, the former a hotel keeper in Canada. John R. Detwiler and his father were both from Pennsylvania, and of Dutch (Holland) ancestry, the latter for many years conducting a grist mill on the Schuylkill river in that state.

Reuben Oscar Hall, a retired business man of Austin, and one of the honored old residents of Mower county, was born in Rochester, Vt., January 10, 1829, son of Reuben and Marena (Brown) Hall. He received his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood, and took one year's course in the high school at Rutland, Vt. He came west in 1850, and located in Wisconsin, farming summers and teaching school winters for six years. In 1856 he went to Mendota, Ill., and there engaged in the grocery business until 1866, in which year he went to Wheaton, Ill., a short distance out of Chicago, in DuPage county, and purchased a farm. Three years later, in 1869, he went to Dixon, Ill., and engaged in the flour business four years. The year 1873 dates his arrival in Austin. In that year he came here

and opened a dry goods store in partnership with his son-in-law, Col. Charles L. West. After twenty-six years' constant attention to this business, he sold the business to Colonel West and retired. Then he spent nearly two years in California and one year traveling in the southern states. Mr. Hall is a Republican in politics, having been an Abolitionist and a Prohibitionist also; has served as sheriff of Mower county four years, from 1875 to 1879; has been alderman of Austin from the second ward, and has done excellent service to the city as chairman of the Austin board of education. He is a high degree Mason, and has been a trustee of the Methodist church for over forty years. The subject of this sketch was married April 8, 1852, to Frances Annette Smith, a native of Schoharie county, New York, born April 8, 1834, and died July 25, 1896, leaving six living children. Eliza Marena, born May 4, 1856, in Mendota, Ill., is now Mrs. Lyman D. Baird. Charlotte Cerucia, born January 6, 1853, in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, married Col. C. L. West, and is now deceased. Frank O., born July 29, 1860, in Mendota, Ill., is a groceryman of Austin. Adelbert Eugene, born July 16, 1871, in Dixon, Ill., is agent for the Wells-Fargo Express Company, at Madison, S. D. Fred H., born September 12, 1869, in Dixon, Ill., lives in Kansas and travels for the Marshall Field Company, of Chicago. Jay Mason, born March 25, 1873, is a St. Paul dentist. Mr. Hall was married the second time August 31, 1897, to Alice Gertrude Harvey, of Woodstock, Vt., daughter of George W. and Caroline (Conant) Harvey, of Woodstock, Vt., the former being still living and the latter dead. To this union have been born two children: Louise Elizabeth, born February 18, 1899, and Reuben Harvey, born April 17, 1905. It is worthy of note that the old Harvey homestead in Woodstock, Vt., has been in the family since the time of Mrs. Hall's great-great-grandfather in revolutionary times, and is now owned by Mrs. Hall's father, G. W. Harvey. Edmond Harvey, Mrs. Hall's great-great-grandfather, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

Reuben Hall, father of Reuben Oscar Hall, was born in Vermont and there married Marena Brown, a native of the same state. They came west in 1853 and located in Wisconsin, coming to Mower county in 1867. Here they took up their residence and farmed a few miles out of Austin all their lives. Reuben Hall lived to be 80 years of age, and his wife reached the age of 93. Both now repose in Oakwood cemetery at Austin. John Brown, maternal grandfather of Reuben Oscar Hall, was one of the first settlers in the town of Rochester, Vt. He was a veteran of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Plattsburg.

Andrew T. Hobson was born in Spring Valley, Fillmore county, this state, April 14, 1877, and received his education in the dis-

trict schools of Clayton township and in the Austin graded schools. He began life for himself as a clerk in the store of C. M. Rice, in Austin, for a year, and then formed a partnership with L. G. Billings in a general store at Oakland village in Fillmore county, a few miles from Austin. In 1898 he sold his interest, and purchased his father's farm of 150 acres in Austin township, on which tract he has since conducted general farming. He has been road overseer four years, was school clerk for six years, and has taken an active interest in public affairs. He attends the Christian church, and belongs to the Modern Samaritans and the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Hobson was married June 28, 1899, to Emma Rosenthal, and their home is brightened by one child, Mildred.

Robert Hobson, retired farmer of Austin, was born in England December 11, 1845, and there lived until thirteen years of age, at which time he came to Sparta, Wis., and lived on a farm. In 1877 he came to Minnesota and located in Spring Valley, where he farmed two years. Then he came to Mower county, purchased 440 acres in Clayton township, and there lived thirteen years. Later he moved to Austin township and continued farming. In 1898 he sold a tract of land in section 21, Austin township, to his son Andrew, and purchased a quarter section in section 32, Red Rock township, where he lived five years, after which he sold out, purchased his present property and erected his present home. Robert Hobson was married July 10, 1867, at Sparta, Wis., to Almira Kelsey, of Pennsylvania, and this union has been blessed with five children: Eliza, Jayne, Andrew, Blanche and Almira. Dr. Eliza Morrison has erected a sanitarium which she conducts at Stuttgart, Ark.; Jayne married John Anderson and died in November, 1892, leaving a son, Robert I., who has been adopted by his grandparents; Andrew farms in Austin township; Blanche died January 23, 1896, and Almira married Albert Watkins.

Abram Hollister, now deceased, a veteran of the Civil war, gave his health and strength to the service of his country, receiving wounds on the nation's battlefields from which he never fully recovered, suffering therefrom until his death, April 1, 1909. Mr. Hollister came to Austin in antebellum days, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in Co. K, 4th Minn. Vol. Inf., his enlistment dating in 1862. He was wounded in the right foot, and received his discharge in 1865. He never fully recovered from this wound, and although he continued farming for some years his wound annoyed him all his life and hastened, probably, his end. He was married in 1866 to Celia Rawson, and this union was blessed with two daughters, Alice M. and Myra J. Alice M. married Elmer Loucks, and they have three children: Arthur H., Celia M. and William A. Nathan Graves is the husband of Myra

J. and they have two children, Lester H. and Nathan A. Mrs. Celia (Rawson) Hollister, widow of Abram Hollister, was born in Jefferson county, New York, daughter of Ozias Rawson, a carpenter by trade, who later in life moved to Canada and became a farmer.

Aaron E. Henslin, M. D., C. M., who has taken a deep interest in the business and social progress of Mower county, as well as in its hygiene and sanitation, was born in Racine, in this county, June 20, 1865, son of Frederic and Ernestine (Weckwerth) Henslin. He was reared on a farm in his native township, attended the Spring Valley high school, and in 1888 entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Keokuk, Iowa, graduating with a medical degree in 1891. Then he took two courses in the Chicago Polyclinic, and in the fall of 1894 entered the Milwaukee Medical College, graduating with honors in surgery in 1895. In the summer of 1891 Dr. Henslin practiced a short time in Adams. After completing his special studies he came to LeRoy, where he has been since that date in active practice, having an extensive clientele, and enjoying that full measure of confidence and regard which is the skillful physician's reward. Dr. Henslin is a member of the American, state and county medical associations, as well as of the Austin, Flint and Cedar Valley association, of Iowa, the Anti-Tubercular Congress, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served as president of the Mower county association. He is also county coroner and county health officer. His civic interest is shown by his membership in the LeRoy Improvement Association, and he is also a member of the I. O. O. F., the Degree of Rebekah, the B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A. He was one of the chief promoters and one of the organizers of the LeRoy Telephone Company, of which he is now the treasurer. Dr. Henslin was married June 1, 1905, at Racine, this county, to May L. Pinckney, and their son, Robert F., died at the age of two years.

Frederic Henslin, the pioneer, was born in Prussia, Germany, and came to America at the age of 25 years. He was married in Wisconsin to Ernestine Weckwerth, who was born in his native place and was brought to this country with her parents at the age of ten years. Frederic Henslin and his wife came to Mower county in 1859, and located in Red Rock township, going in 1863 to Racine township. Frederic died November 23, 1903, and the mother June 21, 1891. They had nine children, seven of whom are living: Christina, wife of John Pfuhl, of Sergeant; Aaron E. Henslin; Emma, wife of August Rein, of Paynesville, Minn.; Sarah, widow of Charles Davis, of Pasadena, California; Julius F., of Halbrite, Canada; Bertha, wife of J. C. Schroeder, of Racine township, and Mary L., a teacher in Minneapolis.

Atkins Hotson, who is acceptably filling the position of secretary for the Mower County Farmers' Fire and Lightning Mutual Insurance Company, was born in Norfolk, England, March 22, 1851, son of Thomas and Esther (Guttridge) Hotson, who brought him to Illinois in 1854 and to Mower county in 1862. He received the larger part of his early education in the district schools of Lyle township, and farmed with his father until 1877, when he started farming for himself in section 14, Lyle township. He first purchased eighty acres, but by thrift and energy he managed to acquire 200 acres, all in Lyle township, which he still owns. On this place he successfully conducted farming operations until 1902, when he rented his land to his son, and moved to Austin to assume the position which he has since occupied. Mr. Hotson is at the present time serving with credit as a member of the city council of Austin. While in Lyle he served twenty-two years as town clerk. He was also treasurer of school district No. 12 at one time and clerk of district No. 54 for many years. Mr. Hotson belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and to the Knights of Pythias. He was married May 24, 1876, to Maria E. Gregg, of Nevada township, this county, who died January 3, 1900, leaving four children: Frank A., now farming in Nevada township; Fay G., who is on the old homestead in Lyle township; Mabel E., who is a graduate of the Austin high school and teaches school, and Nellie M., at the present time a student of the Austin high school. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Thomas Hotson, of Lyle township, was born in Norfolk, England, and there married Esther Guttridge, a native of the same locality. They came to America in 1854 and located in Illinois until 1862, when they came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres of land, which they broke and developed, still carrying on general farming.

Patrick Hoban, retired farmer, was born in Kilkenny county, Ireland, August 15, 1847, son of Martin and (Purcell) Hoban. He was brought by his parents to America at the age of five years, lived in New York two years, and then came with his parents to Wisconsin, where he spent his boyhood. In 1862 he came with them to Rochester, Minn., and remained there until the following summer, when he came to Oakland township, Freeborn county, helped his father break land, and then went back to Rochester. In 1868 he located in Oakland township, Freeborn county, took up eighty acres of railroad land, made the usual improvements, and added to his land until he owned 500 acres, all in Freeborn county. In the meantime he bought half a section in South Dakota, sold this tract, and purchased a whole section in North Dakota, and later disposed of this tract also. In 1909 he purchased a fine property on College street in Austin, where he has

since resided. Mr. Hoban is an independent Democrat and attends the Catholic church. He has worked his way upward in life by his own efforts entirely. Mr. Hoban was married November 1, 1874, to Mary McGuire, a native of Berlin, Wis. This union has been blessed with eight children: Mary, now Mrs. James Quinn, of Bowman county, N. D.; Julia, now Mrs. Gus Kenevan, of Freeborn county; Martin, who is on the home farm; James, who is also on the home farm; Nana, who is a school teacher; William, who is in North Dakota; Arthur and Katherine, who are at home. Martin and Julia (Purcell) Hoban were born in Ireland and came to America in 1852, remaining in New Jersey two years. Then they located in Berlin, Green county, Wisconsin, and remained until 1862, when they came overland to Freeborn county, remaining one summer, on the way, in Rochester. Martin homesteaded eighty acres in section 14, Oakland township, but the first year lived on what was known as the Johnson place. He improved his land and increased his acreage to 240. Mrs. Hoban died in 1881 and her husband in 1886.

William M. Hynie, the capable manager of the Alburn & White lime kiln, at LeRoy, was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, March 15, 1874. He received his education in Blue Earth county, and then worked three years with the C. M. & St. P. Then he took a position with Fowler & Pay, of Mankato, and has since been engaged in the lime business, working for a time in Austin, and now in LeRoy, his home being located in Austin. He is a Republican in politics, a Lutheran, and a member of the M. W. A. and the F. O. E. In addition to being in the lime business, Mr. Hynie spent one season, that of 1906, in Montana, where he worked on railroad bridge construction. Nels and Carrie Hynie, parents of William M. Hynie, were born in Norway, and on coming to America located in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where they took a homestead of 120 acres in Brilliant Valley. In 1892 they retired and moved to Lake Crystal, in the same county, Nels dying there February 28, 1893, and his wife, January 8, 1895.

Milan J. Hart, M. D., a successful practitioner, is village officer of LeRoy, and vice-president of the First State Bank in the same village. He was born in Dover, Olmsted county, Minn., May 9, 1866, son of John G. and Phoebe (March) Hart. Milan J. passed his boyhood and early manhood on the farm, attended the village schools, graduated from the Dover high school, and then entered the University of Minnesota, graduating from the medical department in 1895. After a short period as interne in the City Hospital, at Minneapolis, he came to LeRoy and opened an office. He has a wide trade and is well liked. Being thoroughly ethical in his practice, he has allied himself with the American, the Minnesota, the Southern Minnesota and the Mower County Med-

ical associations, and keeps well abreast of the latest developments in medicine and surgery by wide reading. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the Eastern Star, and a member of the M. W. A. Dr. Hart married Maybelle Avery, daughter of John and Myra (Mitchell) Avery, early settlers. John G. Hart came to Minnesota in 1856, locating west of Rochester, and moved to Dover in 1863, farming there the remainder of his days and died in 1876. He married Phoebe March, who proved an able helpmeet, and lived until 1895, when she, too, passed to the Great Beyond.

John S. Lacy was an early hotel keeper in Austin, having erected the second hotel in the place. Mr. Lacy was a native of Ohio and upon coming to Austin erected a two-story frame building opposite the present court house square, on the site now occupied by the McCullough printing establishment. Mr. Lacy sold his house to Asa Brown, who in the fall of 1865 sold it to one Cole, who in the spring of 1866 sold it to Jacob and A. M. Fleck, who raised the main part of the building, put in a basement, added a story and fitted up in all thirty rooms. The Fleck house was then built on the same site. After passing through several hands, it ceased to be a hotel and is now used for commercial purposes, as above stated. Mr. Lacy died in Montrose, S. D., September 13, 1902.

Jonas Haney, the pioneer, was born in Sussex county, New Jersey, August 1, 1828. He grew to manhood in his native county, receiving his education in the common schools. His parents were John and Sarah (Berk) Haney, the former a native of Pennsylvania, of Germant descent and the latter a native of New Jersey, of English extraction. This couple reared a family of nine children, and continued to reside in New Jersey the remainder of their days. In 1851 Jonas Haney went to Port Jervis, Orange county, N. Y., and was there married to Sophia Miller, born in Orange county, New York, January 15, 1831. He worked at the carpenter and joiner's trade three years after his marriage, and in the spring of 1856 came to Minnesota, landing at Winona the first day of May. He remained there until September of the same year, when he came to Mower county and settled in section 30, Lansing township, where he remained until the time of his death, in 1892, with the exception of two years which he spent in Austin. Mr. Haney was a Republican in politics, and filled various offices of trust in the township. He was county commissioner two terms, assessor of his township for some time, and chairman of the board of supervisors. He had four sons—John W., now living in Oregon; Myron C., now deceased; Charles and Frank. His wife died in 1909.

Frank Haney, for many years a supervisor of the town of

Lansing, was born in Lansing township, January 24, 1859, son of Jonas and Sophia (Miller) Haney. He was reared on the home farm, attended the district schools, and later took up farming for himself, being now one of the substantial men of the township. Like his father before him he is a Republican in politics, and his term as supervisor has extended over a period of fourteen years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen, the Eagles and the Court of Honor. The subject of this sketch was married many years ago to Lillie A. Laey, born in the old Laey house, in Austin, daughter of John S. Laey. Mr. and Mrs. Haney are the happy parents of six children—Sophia, Robert L., Orma, Leonard, Aaron and Everett.

W. F. Cobb, M. D., physician and surgeon, of Lyle, has taken an active part in the official and private life of Mower and Mitchell counties, and has attained an enviable position among the medical fraternity of this portion of Minnesota and Iowa. In the medical world he is a member of the American, Minnesota State, Mower County, Mitchell County and Austin Flint Cedar Valley Medical associations, having been president of the Mower County association and both president and treasurer of the Mitchell County association. He has been county coroner of Mitchell county and served fifteen years as secretary of the school board of Mona. He has been mayor of Lyle, has served six years as president of the Lyle school board; is president of the Lyle Telephone Company, has been local surgeon for the Illinois Central for over thirty years, and is medical examiner for numerous standard insurance companies as well as of a number of fraternal insurance orders. W. F. Cobb was born in Maine, June 14, 1847, son of Joel and Abigail E. (O'Brien) natives of Maine who after living in Wisconsin for a time came to Iowa and lived in Mona until Joel died in 1877, after which Abigail E. returned to Maine where she ended her days. The subject of this sketch received the usual preliminary education, and then entered the University of Wisconsin in 1865, graduating in 1870. In the fall of the latter year he entered the Chicago Medical College, and was graduated, after the requisite hospital and dispensary practice, in 1874. He then started practice in Mona, remained until 1895, and then came to Lyle, where he has a wide practice in village and country. April 30, 1871, he married Abbie C. Mason, of Rutland, Wis., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Warner Mason, both now deceased. This union has been blessed with four children: Edith A., Edna M., Ethel M. and Enid H. Edith A. is the wife of L. O. Olson, station agent for the C., M. & St. P. at Northfield, Minn. Niles C. Putnam is the husband of the second daughter, Edna M. Ethel M., after teaching school six years, studied domestic science in the Thomas Normal Training school at De-

troit, Mich., and is now attending the Stout Training School at Menominee, Wis. Enid H. is a telephone operator at Lyle. Dr. Cobb is a Republican, a high degree Mason, and a member of various leading fraternities. He attends the First Congregational Church of Lyle, of which he is a deacon and church collector.

William M. Howe, now deceased, was a man of high moral character, and his uprightness of life gave him an enviable standing in the community, both as a public servant and as a private citizen. He was born in Canton, N. Y., June 19, 1835, son of Nathan and Lockwood Howe, received his education in the New York State College in his native place, and then took up clerical work in the court house in the same town, that being the seat of government of the county. Mr. Howe came west in 1865, lived for a time in Lansing village, and engaged in farming for seven years. Later he moved to Austin, was elected county commissioner, and still later became register of deeds, serving six years with much credit. During his term of office he compiled a set of abstract books, and after retiring from public life opened an abstract and real estate office, remaining in this business the remainder of his life. Values of more than a million and a half dollars passed under his abstracts, and an abstract of title from him was considered as good as a guarantee from a bonding company. Mr. Howe was a Republican, affiliated with the A. O. U. W. and belonged to the Congregational church. He was clerk of the latter for a number of years, and he, his wife and his daughter all sang in the choir at various times. Mr. Howe departed this life May 16, 1908. He was married January 23, 1867, to Susan J. Soule, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Renssler Soule, the former a graduate of the Green Mountain University, of Burlington, Vt., and a physician of considerable note. Dr. and Mrs. Soule came west in 1865, located at Lansing, in Mower county, lived there a number of years and in 1872 came to Austin. The doctor died November 7, 1880, and his wife passed away March 10, of the same year. Mrs. Howe was born in Fairfax, Vt., February 21, 1842. She and her husband were blessed with one daughter—Jessie Ellen, who was born November 9, 1867, married Winfield S. Pierce, died April 18, 1894, and left one daughter, Florence G., who now lives with her father at Seattle, Wash., having made her home with her grandmother until fifteen years of age.

John M. Greenman, for several years judge of probate of Mower county, was born in Steuben county, New York, April 15, 1837, son of Henry G. and Mary B. (Maxson) Greenman. He graduated from the Allegany College, at Alfred, Allegany county, New York, the institution being at that time known as the Alfred Academy. After graduating, he came west in 1852,

and taught school two years in Milton, Wis. In 1856 he located in Olmsted county, this state, and combined farming with the practice of law, having in the meantime been admitted to the bar. In 1863 he went back to Milton, owing to failing health. In 1870 he came to Austin, in which town he has since lived. He at once took up the practice of law, served as city attorney several terms at different times, and from 1880 to 1884 was county attorney. In 1902 he was elected judge of probate and served from January, 1903, to January, 1911. Judge Greenman is a Republican, a Mason, and a member of the B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A. He was married October 24, 1858, to Elizabeth Sturdivant, daughter of Peleg Sturdivant. This union has been blessed with three children. Henry and George are dead. Fay W., who was born in May, 1878, is a prominent attorney in Austin, now associated with his father in the practice of law, the firm being styled Greenman & Greenman. Henry G. Greenman was born in New York state, and married Mary B. Maxson, who was born in a lighthouse off from Long Island. They came to Wisconsin in 1852 and spent the remainder of their lives in Milton, in that state, Henry G. dying in 1863, and Mary B. in 1886.

Matthew Gregson, now deceased, for many years a prominent miller of Mower county, was a man of upright and honest dealing, one in whose integrity and honor his fellow citizens had the most implicit trust. He was born in Lancashire, England, in November, 1838. In 1856, accompanied by his sister, he crossed the ocean and located for a few years in Illinois with a sister, who had previously taken up her residence there. He next went to Minnesota, and lived for a short time in Freeborn county, but having reached the county during a rainy season he was unfavorably impressed with the weather, and returned to Illinois. Later he went to Kansas, to Pike's Peak and to Missouri. Then he went south, and enlisted at Vicksburg in the Confederate army, serving under Bragg, Beauregard, Johnson and others. When Rosecrans was advancing on Tellehoma, Tenn., Mr. Gregson refused to retreat with his regiment, and was captured by Union troops belonging to McCook's corps. He remained a prisoner four months, and was then paroled in November, 1863. In the spring of 1864 he returned to Mower county and engaged with his brother in the milling business south of Austin. He remained in this concern until 1869 or 1870, when he engaged for a short time in the mercantile business in Austin. The next spring he leased the Austin mill and operated it until his removal to Ramsey. In 1872 he erected the Ramsey mill and remained its owner and proprietor until the time of his death, in October, 1900. The subject of this sketch was married January 3, 1866, to Sarah G. Otter, who was born in Madison, Ind., in 1839. This marriage resulted in eight

children: Louisa, Anna, George, Wallace, Clara and William. Mary and Frank are deceased. The mother of this family died September 15, 1882.

Wallace Gregson, of Austin, who makes a business of electrical construction and supplies, was born in Austin on September 23, 1871, fourth child of Matthew and Sarah Gregson. After his father's death he continued to operate the Ramsey mill for a time and then disposed of his interests to J. H. Meyer & Brother, the former being now the sole proprietor and owner of the mill which now has a capacity of seventy barrels a day. Mr. Gregson then took up his present business. He married Edna G. Carll, daughter of Freeman A. and Eliza E. Carll, and they have two children, Doris and Wallace C. Mr. Gregson is a member of the Masonic order, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery and Eastern Star. Mrs. Gregson is a member of the Eastern Star.

Freeman A. Carll, a well-known citizen of Lansing, was born in Lyons, Wayne county, New York, in 1842, son of Benjamin and Martha Ann (Hamlin) Carll, both parents being natives of the town of New London, Me. The parents came west in 1863, and located in Lansing, keeping the hotel three years, after which they purchased the Timothy Andrews farm in Udolpho. Freeman A. enlisted in the 2nd Minnesota Cavalry, November 1, 1863, and was discharged December 5, 1865. After leaving the army he located on a farm, and now has a well-tilled place in Lansing township. He belongs to the Masonic order and to the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was married to Eliza E., daughter of Augustus and Elmira (Crouch) Carll, and five children blessed their union: Louis R. (deceased); Edith I., now Mrs. G. W. Eastman, of Austin; Edna G., now Mrs. Wallace Gregson, of Austin; Lindorf P. and Ernest W., living in Lansing.

Joseph S. Bevier was born in Union township, Rock county, Wisconsin, March 11, 1847, son of Franklin Bevier, and Sarah Cole, his wife. He received his education in LeRoy, to which town he came in 1856 with his parents, and after school took up farming with his parents, at the same time learning the broom-making trade, working at that trade more or less for ten or twelve years, using his father's home-made machinery. Subsequently he spent some time in Kansas, and a few months in Pope county, Minn., but later returned to the old farm. In 1887 he moved to Seattle, but on account of his father's failing health, he returned to LeRoy in October, 1888, and four years later moved on his father's farm, remaining there till 1909, when he purchased a home in the old village of LeRoy. He is a Mason and a Republican. Mr. Bevier was married August 26, 1880, to Josephine Sweet, and they have one adopted daughter, Mildred, who is the wife of George N. Sitts, of Portland, Ore.



MR. AND MRS. J. S. BEVIER

Franklin Bevier, one of the pioneers of LeRoy, was born in Binghamton, N. Y., December 15, 1805. His grandfather on the mother's side, Captain Joseph Leonard, was a native of Vermont, and were pioneers in Broome county, New York. His father was a native of Holland, and came to America when quite young. When the subject of this sketch was seventeen years of age, his father died, and the care of the family devolved upon him. Previous to this he learned the blacksmith trade, and soon after engaged at that work, with his oldest brother, Zenus, remaining a resident of Broome county until 1843, when he went to Illinois, and lived there three years, after which he went to Wisconsin and settled near the present site of Evansville, Rock county. He bought land, and erected a frame house, which he opened as a tavern. This was before the days of the railroad, and the tavern was on the Sugar river road from Mineral Point to Janesville, a route much traveled in those days. While proprietor of the Prairie House at Wisconsin he was engaged in the manufacture and sale of brooms, making his own machinery and acting as his own salesman. He managed his tavern under the name of Prairie House, in company with his younger brother, Henry, until 1854, then sold and moved to Green county, and located in the town of Dayton, remaining there two years. In 1856, with his family, he started for Minnesota. After eleven days they arrived in township 101, range 14 west, now known as LeRoy, and here Mr. Bevier purchased a claim and pre-empted the land, erecting buildings and bringing the place to a high stage of cultivation, among other improvements being a fine stone house, which still delights the eye of the passers by. Franklin Bevier was joined in marriage to Sarah Cole, in 1845. She was born in the town of Coventry, Chenango county, New York, April 6, 1820. They had eight children: Joseph S., of LeRoy; Frederick G., deceased; Polly Araminta, now Mrs. W. W. Sweet, of LeRoy; Franklin J., deceased; Henrietta E., deceased; Theodore, who died at three years of age, and Flora, who died in infancy. Mr. Bevier died in 1894, and his wife died in 1909.

Charles F. Cook, state senator from Mower county and former mayor of Austin, was born in the city where he still resides, December 24, 1866. The public schools of Austin afforded him his early education, these advantages being supplemented with a course in the Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. His first practical business experience was in his father's hardware store. In 1888 he went west to Seattle, Wash., where he remained two years, clerking in a hardware store. After returning to Austin, he engaged in the insurance business, in which he has continued to the present time, being now president and manager of the Austin Mutual Hail Insurance Company, of Minne-

sota. In politics he is an independent Democrat. He was alderman from the first ward of Austin two years and served as mayor from 1903 to 1906. In November, 1910, he was elected to represent Mower county in the state senate, and his record has justified the confidence of his fellow citizens. Mr. Cook belongs to the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A., the C. of H., the K. of P. and the Austin Commercial Club, being one of the first organizers of the latter society. In 1885 Senator Cook enlisted in Co. G, Second Infantry, M. N. G., and has been captain since 1906, having received his commission from Governor John A. Johnson. Much credit is due him for the high standard of excellence and discipline which he has enforced. The subject of this sketch was married April 8, 1896, to Julia E. Wood, of Berne, N. Y., and they have two boys, John Alden and Charles Carpenter. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

Robert Dickens, a pioneer, now deceased, was born in New York state, went to Pennsylvania, and there married Sarah Babcock, a native of the latter state. They came to Minnesota in the closing months of the war, and purchased 160 acres in Red Rock township, the tract being at that time all wild land. On this piece of land they farmed until 1873, when they sold the farm and purchased 100 acres in Grand Meadow township, where they remained until their death.

Colman E. Dickens, cement manufacturer of Austin, was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1861, son of Robert and Sarah (Babcock) Dickens. He came to Mower county with his parents, was reared on farms in Red Rock and Grand Meadow townships, and at the age of sixteen entered the employ of the C., M. & St. P. as a section hand. In 1893 he came to Austin and engaged in the cement business, which he has since successfully followed, doing all kinds of cement contracting and manufacturing all kinds of cement building material as well as cement hitching and fence posts. It is worthy of note that nearly all the cement sidewalks for which Austin is justly noted were laid by Mr. Dickens. The subject of this sketch belongs to the E. F. U. and the Maccabees and attends the Seventh Day Advent church. He was married October 25, 1884, to Lucy Gould, who was born near Preston, in Fillmore county. This union has been blessed with two children, Claude E. and Edith F. Claude E. was born at Dexter, November 15, 1887, and is engaged in business with his father. He married Mabel Henderson, of Brownsdale. Edith F. was born November 5, 1891, and married William Coogan. The family residence is pleasantly located at 409 Oakwood street.

F. J. Field, for many years a respected agriculturist of Lansing township, deserves a place in the history of the community as one who unostentatiously went his way from day to day, following



CHARLES F. COOK.



WILLIAM M. FRANK

his allotted walk in life with honesty and integrity, doing that which he believed to be right, and meting out exact justice in all his dealings. He was of sturdy old Green Mountain stock, born in Panton, Addison county, Vermont, in July, 1826. In 1852 he located in Fall River, Columbia county, Wisconsin, and was there married to Frances Hobart, a lady of excellent qualities and accomplishments, daughter of John and Eunice (Needham) Hobart, who brought their three children, Martin, Susan and Frances, to the west at an early day. In 1876 Mr. and Mrs. Field came to Lansing, and here Mr. Field carried on farming operations until his death in 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Field had three children. John is dead, and Hixon M. and Elizabeth M., the latter of whom was for several years a successful school teacher, live at home with their aged mother.

William M. Frank, banker of LeRoy, was born at Ft. Snelling, Minn., May 9, 1866, son of Hon. John Frank, of LeRoy township. After receiving a thorough public school education, he attended the Shattuck school, at Faribault. After this he went to New York city, where he worked in a real estate office for a year. Then he secured a position with W. H. Goadby & Co., Wall street bankers, retaining this position two years. Then he returned to Minnesota, and entered the bank of Glencoe, as bookkeeper, remaining for a period of two years. In 1885, with Hon. M. H. Dunnell, he started the bank of New Rockford, becoming its cashier, and remaining two years. He then took a position as cashier for the Powers wholesale dry goods house, in St. Paul, with which concern he remained four years, after which he came to LeRoy, and in 1894 accepted a position as assistant cashier of the First State Bank, in which capacity he remained for a period of seven years. At the end of that time he started the Citizens' Bank of LeRoy, becoming its cashier. This bank in 1904 was merged in the First National Bank, Mr. Frank retaining the position of cashier to the present day. He is an independent voter, a member of the Episcopal church, a thirty-second degree Mason, and a member of the I. O. O. F. and the B. P. O. E. He has served as village treasurer of LeRoy, his term of office extending from 1897 to 1903. Mr. Frank is a popular citizen, and well thought of in the community, extending to the patrons of his bank every courtesy and favor consistent with sound banking principles.

William A. Clay, now deceased, was at one time an Austin lumberman. He was born in Maine, in 1827, and there married Sarah Douglass. He came to Stillwater in 1856, and engaged in lumbering in Washington county, owning a large mill. In the middle sixties he engaged in the lumber business in Austin. Afterwards he again returned to Stillwater, and was interested in

lumbering and surveying the remainder of his life, dying March 3, 1896. His wife died at Willow Creek, Wis., October 26, 1895.

William Franklin Clay, one of Austin's aldermen, has the excellent and unusual record of having been in the railroad service for over forty years. He was born in Gardner, Me., April 15, 1849, son of William A. and Sarah (Douglass) Clay. He came to Minnesota with his parents in 1856, and there received his education. He first started railroad work at Austin in 1868. After working about the station for a while he was appointed yardmaster, and later became a conductor. He was conductor of the construction train that was used in the building of the short line between St. Paul and Minneapolis, and for a number of years he was passenger conductor on the Southern Minnesota division. At the time of his retirement, in June, 1908, he had been in the employ of the railroad just forty years and eleven days. He is a member of the K. of P. and of the B. P. O. E., as well as of the Order of Railway Conductors. In 1910 he was elected alderman from the third ward. Mr. Clay is a Republican. By his first wife, Emma Fenton, he has two children: William D., now of Tacoma, Wash., and Hattie B., now Mrs. Bert Fitch, of Barber, Mont. By his second wife, Ida Bowen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, of Austin, he has had three children. Guy lives at home. Rex died from injuries received while in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, and Frank was drowned in the Cedar river while skating. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church.

John R. Blackmer, Jr., miller and poultry fancier of LeRoy, was born in Decatur, Mich., July 2, 1867, son of John R., Sr., and Catherine (Jewells) Blackmer. He was brought to LeRoy by his parents in 1880. He attended school for a while, learned the plasterers' trade and then engaged in milling several years. He is now engaged in milling in LeRoy, where he does all kinds of grinding, handling graham, buckwheat, corn, etc. He also manages a small farm, and makes a specialty of Red Rocks and White Wyandottes, keeping over 500 birds and breeding them for the spring trade from February to June. Mr. Blackmer is an independent voter and is a member of the LeRoy board of education. He belongs to the Masonic order, the I. O. O. F., the M. W. A., the Mystic Toilers and the Sons of Veterans. The subject of this sketch was married July 15, 1888, at LeRoy, to Nannie W. Pierce, daughter of G. W. Pierce, and to this union have been born four children: John R., Jr.; Nannie, wife of Milton A. Morse; Raymond C. and Edith. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

John R. Blackmer, Sr., was born in New York state, and married Catherine Jewells, of Philadelphia. In 1866 they located in Michigan, and in 1877 took up their residence in Lime Springs,



W. D. CLAY.

Howard county, just over the line in Iowa. Three years later they came to LeRoy township, purchased a farm of 160 acres and carried on farming many years. Catherine Jewells Blackmer died in 1902, and her husband is now an extensive land owner in Nebraska. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having served in Co. K, 12th Mich. Vol. Inf. It is interesting to note that George Jewells, father of Catherine (Jewells) Blackmer, was cashier of the First National Bank, of Philadelphia, for twenty-five years. Sylvester Wood, another ancestor of the Pierce family, on wife's side, was the first man to take a British prisoner at Lexington, Ky., in 1812.

Frank M. Beach, the well-known president of the First National Bank, of Lyle, was born in Lyle township, May 21, 1866, son of John and Catherine M. (Morrison) Beach. He received his education in the district schools of his neighborhood and in the public schools of Austin. In 1885 he started out in life for himself by going to Omaha, Neb., and entering the United States National Bank, as collector. There he remained until 1901, when he resigned the position of paying teller, to which he had been promoted, and came to Lyle. He assisted in the organization of the First National Bank, of Lyle, became its cashier, and in January, 1911, was elected to the office of president, which he fills to the great satisfaction of his patrons and the community at large. A few years ago he, with Augustus Vaux, established the Bank of Rose Creek, Mr. Beach becoming its president. Later the institution was sold to the Dean interests. Mr. Beach has been active in public and business affairs. He has been mayor three terms, a member of the executive committee of the Minnesota State Bankers' Association three years; a member of the executive council of the First district group of bankers, being president of the same in 1909-10, and secretary and treasurer of the Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company, of Lyle and Minneapolis, in which capacity he is still serving. Mr. Beach is a Republican in politics, and his religious faith is that of the Congregational church. He was married September 28, 1897, to Zetta Churchill, of Omaha, Neb., daughter of A. S. Churchill, former attorney general of the state of Nebraska, and Lena Murphy Churchill. Mrs. Beach was born in Iowa, November 16, 1873, and to her union with Mr. Beach have been born three children: John C., August 6, 1900; Catherine M., July 6, 1905; and Marjorie, August 14, 1907.

John Beach, now deceased, was born in Rensselaerville, Albany county, New York, May 16, 1833, son of the Rev. Alanson Beach, and Sinai Tanner Beach, his wife. John moved with his parents to Schoharie county, in his native state, and after seven years again returned to Albany county, where he grew to manhood. At twenty-one years of age he went to Green county, in the same

state, and took charge of his grandfather's farm there. In 1855 he made a trip to Iowa, but returned to New York state, remaining until the fall of 1856, when he came with his father's family to Mower county, Minnesota. Here he purchased land in sections 32 and 33, Lyle township, a portion of which tract he improved. Two years later he moved to his parents' homestead, where he lived until 1890, when he retired and moved to the city of Austin, where he died January 21, 1906. His wife, Catherine M. Morrison, whom he married September 3, 1856, died in November, 1896. Mr. Beach was a man of sterling qualities and was always interested in everything that was for the good of the community. His services for eight years as county commissioner gave general satisfaction. In the family were two daughters and one son: Mary A., Frank M. and Katie M.

Rev. Alanson Beach, now deceased, was one of that band of devout Methodist clergymen who did so much to assist in the progress of that denomination in this country. He was born in Rensselaerville, Albany county, New York, October 26, 1808. His early days were spent on the farm, his time being devoted to farm work, to teaching and to study. He was ordained to the Methodist Episcopal ministry at a meeting of the Troy conference, held at Schenectady, N. Y., May 15, 1833, Bishop Wagh presiding. He preached in several cities until 1856, when he came west and located on sections 32 and 33, in what is now Lyle township, Mower county. Then he went back and got his family, bringing them to his claim in Mower county, one of the sons, Wilson, making part of the trip alone. Upon reaching Lyle township, they took up their home in a large log house with puncheon floor and a stone chimney. After a few years the family erected a fine frame house. Rev. Beach died July 30, 1877. He was very prominent in county affairs, was county commissioner for eight years, chairman of his township for many terms, and also served in other positions of trust and honor. He was married March 15, 1832, to Sinai Tanner, who was born in Albany county, New York, February 24, 1809. They had three children: John, Wilson and Zillah.

Americus V. Bacon, veteran of the Civil war and retired merchant of Lansing, was born in Wilton, Franklyn county, Maine, in 1839, son of Josiah and Jerusha (Gould) Bacon. He spent his early life on the farm, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in the 8th Maine Vol. Inf., and played low bass in the regimental band. In 1862 the band was discharged and he returned home, reinlisting in the 2nd Maine Cavalry, and serving as bugler in Co. F until the close of the war, returning home in December, 1865. In 1868 he came west and located in St. Charles, Winona county, Minnesota, staying there thirteen years. During

this period he married Minnie L. Schenk, daughter of John and Minnie Schenk, of St. Charles, formerly from Lomira, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Bacon came to Lansing in the spring of 1881, and Mr. Bacon took up the coal business, which he conducted for ten years, disposing of it at the end of that period. He then went into the lumber business, which he carried on until 1901. He now owns a farm about two miles out of the village of Lansing. He has been a justice of the peace for several years, and is a member of the G. A. R. Mr. and Mrs. Bacon have two children: Eleanor and Arthur J. Eleanor is now Mrs. Albert Schisley and has one son, Kenneth. Mrs. Bacon died in 1906 and in 1907 Mr. Bacon married Mrs. Grace M. Thorn, of Minneapolis.

Oliver J. Bemis, one of the earliest pioneers, came to Austin, from Maine, in 1855, pre-empted 160 acres near the present city, built a shanty and started breaking the land. The following year he sold this land and purchased a farm in section 11. Four years later he sold this place and bought a farm in section 3, Windom township; at about the same time starting, with his brother, George, the first shoe store in Austin. In 1859 he married Elizabeth M. Vandegrift, a native of Philadelphia, and to them were born six children: Mary O., Edwin T., Charles H., Sarah, wife of Samuel McMinnis, Frank C. and Howard J. Oliver Bemis was born in Paris Hill, Oxford county, Maine, April 20, 1829, and was taken by his parents to Penobscot county, in the same state, at two years of age. It was here that he was reared. When he was twenty-one years of age he located in Wisconsin, remained two years and then went to California. Starting from Rock county, Wisconsin, he went over the plains with ox teams, commencing his journey April 15, and arriving at his destination August 28. He engaged in mining in Sierra county, and remained there until 1855, when he returned to Maine via the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in Mower county later in the same year.

Edwin T. Bemis, elevator manager of Austin, was born on a farm near this city, son of Oliver and Elizabeth M. (Vandegrift) Bemis, and remained on the home place until twenty-five years of age, since which he has been engaged in the grain business. He married Alice, the daughter of Leander and Patience Kirkland.

George S. Burnham, clerk of the district court for Mower county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, May 29, 1854, son of Miles and Caroline (Johnson) Burnham. He received his education in his native county, and then learned telegraphy. In 1872 he went to Blooming Prairie, in this state, and was operator for the C. M. & St. P. there about four years. After a year's work for the Northwestern, he again went to Blooming Prairie, and was cashier of the bank of J. C. Brainerd & Co. for six years. In 1885 he came to Austin, and worked as bookkeeper and foreman in a

foundry and machine shop owned by the Ames Brothers. Subsequently he became a locomotive machinist for the C., M. & St. P. and continued in that occupation until 1906, when he was elected to his present position, in which he has since served with fidelity and ability. While in Blooming Prairie he was treasurer and recorder of the village for four years, and since coming to Austin he has been alderman from the first ward two years. He is a Republican and a high degree Mason, and also affiliates with the B. P. O. E., the Maccabees and the A. O. U. W. The subject of this sketch was married October 23, 1878, to Marian L. Gleason, and this union has been blessed with two sons, Erle M. and Harry G. Erle M. was born July 7, 1879, and is now secretary for the Hughes Manufacturing Company, of Los Angeles, Cal. Harry G. was born in September, 1880, and operates a jewelry store in Hibbing, Minn. Miles Burnham, father of George S. Burnham, of Austin, was born in New York state and married Caroline Johnson, a native of England. They located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1844, and there Miles engaged in conducting a saw mill. He was also first county superintendent of schools in that county. In 1880 they came to Dodge county, Minnesota, and took up dairy farming. Miles Burnham died in 1899, and his wife now lives in Blooming Prairie at the age of 80 years.

Fred Baldner, a popular farmer of Nevada township, where he owns 140 acres of good land in section 25, is a native product, born in the township where he now resides May 5, 1866, son of Philip and Maggie (Weber) Baldner. He was reared on the home farm, attended the public schools, and has devoted his life to farming. He is a Republican and attends the Lutheran church. Fred Baldner married Rena Rosel, daughter of Leonard and Marie Rosel, and they have six children: Elsie, Clara, Mina, Erma, Walter, Oscar. Elsie married George Perau, of Mitchell county, Iowa.

Philip Baldner was born in Prussia, Germany, and married Maggie Weber. They came to America in 1854, and located near Princeton, Ill. It was in 1860 that they came to Adams township, and here they lived in section 25 until 1886, when they moved to Mitchell county, Iowa, and lived there until the death of Philip, in July, 1904. Mrs. Baldner is living at the good old age of 79, and is making her home with her daughter, Mrs. William Ehlke. There were ten children in the family: Louis lives in Mitchell county, Iowa; Maggie married William Ehlke and lives in the same county; Philip likewise lives in that county; David lives in Cresco, Iowa; Barbara, wife of Carl Young, deceased, lives in Spokane, Wash.; Lizzie is the wife of Henry Longrock, of Alberta, Canada; John lives in Mitchell county; Fred farms in Nevada

township; Mary is the wife of Henry Meier, of David, Iowa; William lives in Adams township. Another child, unnamed, died in infancy.

Thomas J. Bishop, deceased, was born in Chautauqua, N. Y., May 13, 1825. He spent his boyhood and young manhood in New York state, and married Elmira Crittenden, daughter of Philander and Maria (Williams) Crittenden, the former of whom was a native of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Bishop came to Minnesota in 1856, and at the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Bishop enlisted in the famous Co. K, 4th Minn. Vol. Inf. and served three years. After the war Mr. Bishop followed his trade as carpenter and joiner, and in his later years practically retired. He passed away in 1905. The subject of this sketch was a most estimable citizen, and was highly respected by all who knew him. He and his wife were the parents of four children: Ella, wife of J. M. Williams; Freemont; Lillie, wife of A. A. Hickok, living near Varco Station, and Henry.

John Boen, farmer, of Marshall township, was born in Norway in 1865, son of Aaen and Slowold Boen. He received his early education in Norway, and in 1881 came to the United States, reaching South Dakota via Quebec. After two years he went to Leland, Ill., and after working as a farm hand rented land for several years. Subsequently, after a short stay in Iowa, he came to Mower county in 1903, and purchased 560 acres in section 10, Marshall township. Here he has since carried on general farming, raising grain and cattle, and taking particular pride in his Hereford and Black Poll cattle, of which he keeps forty-two head for dairy purposes. He also keeps fifteen head of horses. He is a Republican in politics, and has served as road overseer. In 1890 Mr. Boen married Mrs. Caroline Brandenburg, a native of Germany, who came to America in 1864. This union has been blessed with three children: Amos, Joseph and Stella, all of whom are at home. Frederick Brandenburg, son of Mrs. Boen, also lives at home. The farm is well equipped, has a fine house with a parked drive, commodious buildings and sheds, and two windmills. Aaen Boen was born in Norway, and married Slowold Boen. He was a fisherman until 1890, when he came to America and settled in Leland, Ill. There he farmed until 1903, when he came to Mower county and lived with his son. While in Norway, Aaen Boen served in the Norwegian army.

Robert Bagley, a prominent farmer of Udolpho, has taken a keen interest in the progress of that part of the county. He has served his township as clerk for a number of years and has been constable three years. As clerk he was accurate and painstaking, and as constable he was courageous and just. He is a product of Mower county, born in Udolpho township in a log house on the

site of his present pleasant residence, September 17, 1868, son of Henry and Rachel (Green) Bagley, pioneers. He has devoted his life to farming, and raises general crops and live stock. He married Gertrude Ingvaldson, and has seven children: Maude R., Blanche A., Maurice H., Ralph H., Ruth and Ruby (twins), and Gertrude L.

Henry Bagley, a pioneer, and veteran of the Civil war, came from New York state with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Bagley, and located in Udolpho about 1857. He married Rachel Green, whose mother was a Richardson, of the family of Thomas Richardson, who came to Udolpho from St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1856, with the earliest settlers. Henry Bagley served in the 1st Minn. Heavy Art., and his statue, carved life size from granite, marks the spot in Udolpho cemetery where his earthly remains await the last call. He lost his right hand in horsepower while threshing in 1875. Moved to Minneapolis 1884, engaged in mercantile business until 1890, when he moved back to the farm where he continued to live until autumn of 1902, when he moved to the Pacific coast and settled at Sedre Woolley, Wash., where he bought a fruit ranch but died suddenly of cerebral hemorrhage February 13, 1906, his wife having preceded him two years.

Merrill Bowers, treasurer of the village of LeRoy since 1906, was born in Clayton county, Indiana, October 28, 1872, son of W. H. and Ellen J. (Atwood) Bowers. He received his education in the public schools of Cresco, Iowa, and took a course at Valder's business college at Decorah, Iowa. After starting out in life for himself, his first position was with the Cresco department store, a position he held for six years. His banking career was started in that year as teller for the Cresco Savings Bank, a position he retained for three and a half years. In 1904 he came to LeRoy, and took up his duties as assistant cashier of the First National Bank, serving in the same capacity at the present date. Mr. Bowers is an independent voter, a member of the Presbyterian church, a member of the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A. and an estimable citizen in every respect. He was married May 8, 1899, to Ida E. Lomas. W. H. and Ellen J. (Atwood) Bowers, parents of Merrill Bowers, lived for many years in Elkader, Iowa, the former having been born in Pennsylvania and the latter being of Scotch-Irish descent. Mrs. Ellen Bowers died in Cresco, Iowa, March 10, 1905, and in that city W. H. is still successfully engaged in business.

William Bonnallie has taken an active part in township and church affairs. He was born October 4, 1851, in Canada, and came to Mower county with his parents in 1857, remaining home until his mother's death, after which he started out for himself and worked by the month as follows: for D. Chandler, one year;



ARNE A. HUSEBY AND FAMILY.



ARNE A. HUSEBY'S RESIDENCE.

for William Goslee, one year; for E. Watkins, two years, and for his father on a farm in Freeborn county, two years, after which he purchased 160 acres in London township, Freeborn county, and engaged in farming for himself for a period of three years. Then he gave up the farm and again worked for William Goslee for a period of two years, after which he came to Mower county and rented a farm for seven years in section 19, Lyle township. This tract of eighty acres he afterward purchased, and since that time has made many developments, and at the present time is erecting a new barn. He has also added twenty acres to his farm. He is a progressive Republican. In religious belief he is a Presbyterian, being ordained as elder of the Woodbury Presbyterian church, of London, Freeborn county, by Dr. R. B. Abbott, of Albert Lea. He has served ten years as superintendent of the Sunday school, and three years as treasurer of the town of London in Freeborn county; and has been clerk of his school district, No. 70, for the past twenty years. The subject of this sketch was married August 30, 1881, to Anna Smith, daughter of Edgar Smith, her parents coming from Wisconsin to Mower county in 1867. Seven children have blessed their union: William Arthur, Olive B., Corena M. (now Mrs. William Barclay), Pearl A., Charlotte A., Margaret A. and George E. Thomas and Charlotte (Phelps) Bonnallie were natives respectively of Scotland and Canada. They came to the United States and located in Burlington, Wis., engaging in general farming until coming to Mower county in 1857, when he purchased land in Austin township, and followed farming until his wife's death in 1865. At this time he disposed of his farm. In 1867 he married Mrs. Peter Robertson, and settled on her farm in London township, Freeborn county, where he remained until his death.

Arne A. Huseby, chairman of the town board of Marshall, has served in his present capacity nine years, has been district school committeeman eight years, and has worked in other positions of public and private trust and honor, being held in high esteem by the men of his wide acquaintance. He has accumulated all his property and land by his own determination, and rugged character, having received no help, since early boyhood, from his parents or relatives. Mr. Huseby's success and present high standing in the community are a worthy monument both to the opportunities for determined men in this fortunate country, as well as to the character and accomplishments of Mr. Huseby himself. Arne A. Huseby was born in Norway, December 13, 1857, son of Anton Huseby and Christie Boyum, his wife, both now deceased. Each member of the family has achieved an enviable reputation, Olaf, a son of Anton and brother of Arne, being a historian living at Fosston, Minn. Sister Randi is mar-

ried to Mr. Sampson Urheim, who is a quartermaster sergeant in the army of Norway, and resides in Bergen, Norway, while Bertha, a sister, is Mrs. Ole Haralson, a prominent church worker in Princeton, Minn. A half brother, James, son of Anton by his second marriage, is a farmer living near Ambrose, N. D. Arne A. Huseby was educated in Norway, and came to America April 27, 1874, engaging in farming and railroad work until 1889, when he purchased land upon which he has since resided in Marshall township. He has greatly improved the land, added several pieces to the original tract, and now has 208 acres in section 24. In 1875 he married Synneve Huke, and to this union have been born nine children, of whom six are living, as follows: Christine, born October 16, 1876, is now Mrs. John Anderson, of Clayton township; Minnie, born May 2, 1878, is the wife of John Sorflaten, of Clayton township; Sophia, born April 9, 1884, is the wife of A. S. Slindee, of Marshall township; Annie, born December 15, 1885; Bennie, born December 21, 1887, a graduate of the Minnesota Agricultural School, and Louis, born September 16, 1889, are at home. Mr. Huseby gives his attention largely to dairying, and has a fine herd of fifteen grade Shorthorns, twenty-five grade Holsteins, and several pure bred Holsteins, the milk from which is sold to the Coöperative creamery at Adams, of which Mr. Huseby is president. He raises oats and grains in sufficient quantities to more than take care of his home needs, and breeds hogs and poultry in quantities to supply domestic needs and to take advantage of occasional good markets.

John L. Hukee, a prominent farmer of Adams township, was born in Norway, February 3, 1856, son of Lasse and Mary Jenson Hukee, who were born in Norway, and in 1874 took up their residence in Adams township, this county. John L. was educated in the public schools of Norway, and came to America in 1874, landing in New York, and making his way directly to Adams township. He worked on farms and on the railroad for three years, and then purchased eighty acres in Marshall township. Later he purchased property in section 4, Adams township. He first erected a log cabin and lived in this until 1880, when he built his present comfortable dwelling. He has also erected suitable outbuildings, has planted trees, cultivated the ground and conducted other improvements. He now owns 230 acres of land all in section 4, and on this he conducts general farming operations and stock breeding. He has a fine herd of Holsteins, which he keeps for dairy purposes, and the cream from this herd is sold to the Adams Coöperative creamery. Mr. Hukee is a Republican in politics, and has served as school director six years. He was married in November, 1893, to Bertha Johnson, a native of Norway. Seven children have been born, of whom



W. D. HARDEN

six are living. All are at home and the four oldest attend school. They are Leonard, Bernard, Gertrude, Josephine, Jerfine and Mabel.

Charles S. Harden, postmaster at Le Roy, as was his father before him, was born in Volney, Allamakee county, Iowa, November 5, 1857, son of Warren DeWitt Harden. He received his education in Volney, and also in Le Roy, to which place he was brought by his father in 1868. After leaving school, he clerked in a general store for some years, and then for five years conducted a grocery store. After selling this store, he went to the Dakotas for three months, and then from 1895 to 1900 was manager for the Palmer Bros.' lumber yard at Ostrander, Minn. Then he returned to Le Roy and clerked in the postoffice until 1904, when he was appointed postmaster, in which position he has since continued. Mr. Harden was married December 23, 1877, to Ethleen Bidwell, of Indiana, and to this union two children have been born, Maude F., who assists her father in the postoffice, and Decorah M., who is teaching at McGregor, Iowa.

George W. W. Harden, manager of the LeRoy Fibre Company, was born in Volney, Iowa, May 3, 1862, son of Warren DeWitt Harden. He came to LeRoy in 1868, attended school here, and then entered the State University of Minnesota, graduating from the law department in 1891. He was admitted to the bar at the same time and at once returned to LeRoy, where he has since resided. In 1893 he became much interested in the cream industry, and since that date has been sole owner and proprietor of the LeRoy Creamery Company. In 1905 he established the LeRoy Fibre Company, but sold out in 1908, being still retained, however, as general manager. In 1901 and again in 1905 he was elected to the legislature, and for three years he has served as a member of the village council. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and attends the Presbyterian church. The subject of this sketch was married March 31, 1908, to Laura B. Stokes, of Chicago, an estimable lady of many accomplishments.

Warren DeWitt Harden, now deceased, was for over forty years a well-known citizen of the vicinity of LeRoy, his death taking place November 23, 1910, at the age of eighty years. He was born in Granville, Washington county, New York, October 27, 1830, and lived at that place until about five years of age, when his parents moved to a point in Lake county, Illinois, about thirty miles north of Chicago. At the age of seventeen, the subject of this sketch enlisted in the Mexican war, serving with credit until its close. Then he returned to the home farm and attained no little distinction as a horseman. In connection with his farm life he also spent several winters in the pine forests of

Michigan. He was married October 4, 1852, to Susannah Bryant, and together they went to Volney, Iowa, where Warren DeW. opened a daguerreotype establishment in 1856. Here his two oldest sons were born. He was the first postmaster at Volney, and there he also learned the mason and stone cutting trade. During the Civil war he served in the Twenty-seventh Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and received his discharge as first sergeant in August, 1865. At the close of the war he returned home and resumed his trade, also farming two years in Ludlow township, near Waukon, Iowa. Having injured his back, he again turned his attention to photography, coming to LeRoy in the fall of that year and conducting a gallery here for many years. He was appointed postmaster of LeRoy in 1898 and held that position until failing health caused him to resign in 1904. He was a member of the Masonic order, joining Eureka Lodge, No. 75, A. F. & A. M., in the year 1869, and some years later joining the chapter lodge of the same order. He was also an active member of the James George Post, G. A. R. Mr. Harden was survived by his wife and four sons, Charles S., born in 1857; George W. W., born in 1862; Horace G., born in 1867, and Bertie A., born in 1871.

Joseph D. Carll, now deceased, a respected farmer of Mower county, was born near Lyons, Wayne county, New York, September 15, 1856. In the fall of 1871 his parents brought him west to Mower county, and settled on a farm in Udolpho township. He brought his young bride, Mary Bartlett, to his home in 1878, and here they remained for seven years. Later Mr. Carll purchased the farm in section 27, Udolpho township, still owned and operated by Mrs. Carll. They lived on this farm eighteen years, until on account of Mr. Carll's failing health, they moved to Lansing village, where he died in 1906. Mr. Carll was school clerk in Udolpho eighteen years, and assessor for thirteen years, the welfare and prosperity of the town being ever near and dear to his heart. Mr. and Mrs. Carll were blessed with six children, of whom five are living: Jennie M., Bessie E., Grover (deceased), Minnie and Edith. Jennie M. married C. W. Stimson and lives in Winnebago, Minn. Bessie E. married Jacob Hahn, and lives in Udolpho. Ada is now Mrs. William Bell. Minnie and Edith live at home. Mrs. Carll is the daughter of John and Martha (McIntyre) Bartlett, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Plattsburg, N. Y. They came west to Wisconsin, Iowa county, remained there a short time, and then moved to Richland county, to the village of Lonerock, where Mrs. Joseph D. Carll was born. Two of the sons, brothers of Mrs. Joseph D. Carll, are George W., of Bison, S. D., and Frank L., now a resident of the state of Washington.



J. D. CARLL AND FAMILY.

Christian E. Hovda, the capable and obliging postmaster of Grand Meadow, has taken an active part in the progress of his community. During his term of service as postmaster, the Grand Meadow office has been raised from the fourth to the third class, three rural routes have been established and the efficiency of the service has been greatly increased. In addition to this he has taken a leading part in the organization and development of the Farmers' Coöperative Creamery Company, of Grand Meadow, of which he is one of the stockholders. While in Frankford township he gave good service several years as township assessor. Mr. Hovda was born in Frankford township, this county, January 31, 1864, son of Ingebret O. Hovda and Anna T. Braaten, his wife, natives of Norway. He received his education in the district schools of his native township, and attended the high school at Spring Valley, Fillmore county, after which he rented 160 acres in Frankford township, and at the same time purchased eighty acres, thus making a farm of 240 acres, which he managed for a period of ten years. In 1897 he gave up farming and came to Grand Meadow to accept his present position. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the M. W. A., being also a stockholder in the company formed to erect the M. W. A. hall. The subject of this sketch was married March 19, 1890, to Betsy Kval, who was born in Norway and came to America in 1880 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Kval, the former of whom is dead, and the latter of whom is still living in Grand Meadow. Mr. and Mrs. Hovda have been blessed with one daughter, Evelyn, born July 9, 1894. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ingebret Hovda and Anna T. Braaten, his wife, were born in Norway and came to America before the Civil war. Ingebret Hovda came with his father, Ole Hovda, in 1852, and after living in Wisconsin two years, came to Mower county in 1854 and located in Frankford township with the early settlers. Anna T. Braaten came to America with two sisters in 1861, and located in Racine township, where she lived until her marriage to Ingebret Hovda in May, 1863. They established their home on eighty acres which Ingebret had purchased in Frankford township, and were thus enjoying their honeymoon when the repeated calls came for soldiers to defend the union. Mr. Hovda therefore enlisted in Company K, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, when he came back to Frankford and resumed farming. He added to his original purchase until he owned 180 acres, and on this he conducted general farming until 1900, when he retired and moved to Grand Meadow village, where he lived until his death, August 18, 1905. Mrs. Hovda now makes her home with her son at the old home. In

the family were ten children, three of whom died in infancy. The others are Christian E., Anton (deceased), Oliver, John, Emma, Anna and Edward.

Torkal Olson Aldal, who farms a fine place of 180 acres in Udolpho, was born in Voss, Norway, June 4, 1844, and was twenty-one years of age when he came to America, locating in Dane county, and remaining two years. Then he took up his residence on his present place in Udolpho township. He has greatly improved the farm, erected a comfortable house and commodious barns, and has purchased some modern machinery which greatly facilitates his agricultural operations. Mr. Olson Aldal is a hard working man, and a thorough believer in education, having served twenty years on the school board. He was married November 15, 1872, to Julia Kanutson, of Wisconsin, and to this union have been born nine children, of whom four, John, Bennie, Susie and Maribo, are living. Susie, the oldest daughter, is the wife of H. H. Seagan, of Austin.

L. O. Aldal, one of the progressive citizens of Lansing township, was born in Norway in 1856, received his primary education and also a normal course, prepared for teacher in that place, and in 1878, at the age of twenty-two, came to America, since which time he has spent practically all of his life in Lansing and vicinity working on the farm and teaching schools. Eighteen years ago he bought the Snow farm, which at that time was in a most primitive condition, having a log house and a few outbuildings. This place he at once set about improving and today he has a fine place of 280 acres, the acreage being well tilled and productive, and the buildings being modern in every respect. A large house, well furnished, was erected in 1898, and a large and commodious barn was built in 1909. He has a fine household of intelligent young people, and the family is highly esteemed in the community. Believing that the development of the community goes hand in hand with the growth of school and church, he has taken a deep interest in educational affairs, and has been secretary of the Red Oak Grove Evangelical Lutheran church for many years. Mr. Aldal married Caroline Hillson and this union has been blessed with twelve children: Johanna R., George O., Clara M., Selmer L., Ida B., Hilda M., Judith R., Olga M., Clarence R., Joseph T., Alga M., and Martha C.

Knute A. Allrick was born in Mower county in 1867, son of Andrew and Sarah Allrick, the pioneers. He received his education in the schools of Adams and remained at home with his father assisting on the farm. From the time he was twenty-four until reaching his thirtieth year, he worked regularly for his father and at the end of that period purchased the eighty acres where he now makes his home. This, at the time of purchase,

was wild land, but he set about breaking and improving it and now has an excellent farm, having erected a full complement of buildings and purchased an adequate amount of tools, implements and machinery. He raises some general crops, but turns much of his attention to grain and makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Allrick is a Republican in politics and is now serving as road overseer. He attends the Lutheran church and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. The subject of this sketch was married in 1897 to Susie Anderson, daughter of Andrew Anderson. Mrs. Allrick was born in Norway, came to this country in 1892, and lived for a time in Fillmore county before coming to this county.

Andrew Anderson, of Marshall township, was born in Sweden in 1850, son of Andrew Larson, and came to the United States in 1880. On arrival in this country he went to Chicago and worked three years in the Pullman car shops. Then he came to Mower county and rented land. He is now in charge of the M. Flemming farm in section 29, where he tills 240 acres and engages in general farming on an extensive scale. In 1880 he married Annie Charlotte, a native of Sweden, and to this union has been born three children: Hilda, Arthur and Carl, all of whom are at home. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics, and affiliates with the Swedish Lutheran church.

Theodore Austenson is a Mower county product, having been born on the farm where he now lives, in section 24, Lyle township, August 30, 1879, son of Gunder and Helga (Emmonson) Austenson. He received his education in the district schools and then took up farming with his father until 1905, when he rented the home farm, now carrying on general farming and making a specialty of fine poultry breeding, his pride being barred Rocks, with which breed he has won many prizes at county and state fairs, having attained some prominence as a poultry fancier. He is a member of the Austin and Mower County Poultry Association. Mr. Austenson is single, a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church.

Gunder Austenson was born in Norway, April 30, 1841, and there received his education, growing to manhood, and remaining until 1867, when he came to America, locating first in Nevada township, Mower county, for a few years, and later purchasing eighty acres of land in Lyle township, this county, section 24. He broke this wild land, improved it, erected buildings, and developed it into a fine place. Here he carried on general farming until 1905, when he rented his farm to his son, Theodore, who now conducts it. He still remains on the place, he and his wife making their home with their son. Mr. Austenson was married in Norway to Helga Amundson, December 26, 1865, and to this union were born nine children. The living are: Julia,

now Mrs. R. W. Olin, wife of a merchant at Sioux City, Iowa; Theodore, on the home farm, and Mollie, who also lives at home. Mr. Austenson is a good citizen, a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church.

Welcome Chandler, a pioneer, settled in Austin in 1857. He was a native of the Green Mountain state, born in the town of London, January 11, 1807. When he was but twelve years of age his parents emigrated to Canada and settled at Raughmont, Province of Quebec, where he grew to manhood. When he was twenty years of age he left home and settled in Shepard county, Province of Quebec, and was one of the first settlers in the town of Milton, where he purchased government land, from which he cleared the heavy timber, and where he resided until 1857, when he sold out, and with his family joined his son, David L., in Mower county, Minnesota. He purchased land in section 32, Austin township, and improved a farm of eighty acres, adding to this tract and continuing general farming until his death, December 15, 1880. His wife, Amy Phelps, whom he married in Canada, but who was born in Vermont, died May 12, 1883.

George Chandler, a successful farmer of Austin township, was born in Shepard county, Quebec, Canada, June 28, 1845, son of Welcome and Amy (Phelps) Chandler, the pioneers. He was brought to Mower county by his parents at the age of twelve years, here attended school, grew to manhood and assisted his father on the farm. In 1873 he made a trip to California and then to Oregon, spending five months, after which he returned to Mower county and accepted a clerkship in Austin. In 1878 he engaged in the grocery trade for a short time, but sold out and resumed farming. He bought ninety-one acres and took eighty acres of railroad land in section 21, Austin township, and broke it and improved it. Mr. Chandler has been town clerk for fifteen years and votes independently. Being an earnest church worker he has been closely identified with the growth of the Methodist faith in this locality. He has been a steward and trustee, class leader, Bible class teacher and Sunday school superintendent, and contributes liberally of time and money to the Christian cause. He is a stockholder in the Tri-State Telephone Company and in the Northwestern Portland Cement Company, of Mason City, Iowa. The subject of this sketch was married June 4, 1878, to Florence Amelia Brown, and to this union have been born three children: Mabel F., Edith B. and G. Ernest.

R. A. Carll, successful farmer of Udolpho, was born in Lyons, Wayne county, New York, December 4, 1845, son of Benjamin and Martha (Hamlin) Carll, both natives of New London, Maine. R. A. came west with his parents in 1863, was reared in Lansing village and Udolpho township, and after three years in Minne-

apolis, returned to Udolpho and has since managed and conducted the home place, in sections 26 and 27. Mr. Carll has taken an active interest in township affairs, has been town clerk, and is at the present time town supervisor. He is one of the stockholders in the Lansing Coöperative Creamery. For many years past he has been a member of Lansing Lodge, No. 72, A. F. & A. M., and of the St. Bernard Commandery, No. 13, R. A. M. Mr. Carll married Ella F. Littlefield, daughter of Aurin G. and Jemina (White) Littlefield. Aurin G. Littlefield was a native of Maine. At the outbreak of the Civil war he enlisted in the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served nearly three years, being killed on the battlefield of Chickamauga, in 1863. His wife, Jemina White, died in 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Carll have two children, Earl A. and Evered. Earl married Lettie Vaughn. Evered married Celia Teigen and they have one child, Malcolm A.

Benjamin Carll was born in Maine, and in 1815 was taken to New York state at the age of nine years by his father, also Benjamin by name, making the trip by ox team. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in New York state, married Martha Hamlin, and in 1863 came to Lansing. After managing a hotel there three years, he moved to Udolpho and purchased the Timothy Andrews farm in sections 26 and 27. Benjamin Carll died in 1902 at the age of 95 years and six months.

Benjamin M. Carll, an honored resident of Udolpho township, and courageous veteran of the Civil war, now deceased, was born in Lyons, Wayne county, New York, February 15, 1840. The Civil war broke out when he was a young man, and he enlisted September 10, 1861, in Company C, Eighth New York Cavalry. His service was chiefly in Virginia. He was in the Army of the Potomac and was discharged December 8, 1864. He participated in over fifty engagements. After his discharge he at once returned to New York, and in December of that year came to Mower county, where his parents had preceded him the year before. He was married February 22, 1870, to Mary C. Rhoades, daughter of Orsamus D. and Maria (Hunter) Rhoades, who was born in Chautauqua county, New York, in 1847. In the fall of 1873 Mr. Carll moved to a farm which he purchased in section 12, Udolpho township. This farm at the time was wild prairie and Mr. Carll set about improving it, breaking and cultivating the land and erecting suitable buildings. Mr. Carll was a member of Henry Rogers Post, No. 11, G. A. R. He lead a goodly life and passed to his reward November 2, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Carll were the parents of four children: Roy M., Ira O., Fred W. and M. Ethel. Roy married Nora Chandler and they have two daughters, Verna and Nellie. He lives in Mason City, Iowa. Ira died in infancy.

Fred married Lottie Churchill and they have two sons, Forest and Milo. He resides on the old place. Ethel married Myron Beltz and lives in Mason City, Iowa.

Luman D. Carter, for many years a resident of Lyle township and village, and now a resident of Austin township, has been a prominent man in the county, and has worthily and ably filled county, township and village office. He was born near Montreal, Canada, March 7, 1841, son of John A. and Charlotte (Phelps) Carter, of New England birth, and French and English ancestry. He came to the United States with his parents in 1854, lived in Burlington, Wis., and in September, 1859, at the age of eighteen years came to Austin township. After arriving here he attended the Austin public schools, and lays credit to the claim of being the oldest man living in the county who received his education in Mower county schools. He taught school for a year and then enlisted in Company B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving until mustered out, December 24, 1865. During a part of this time he did service on the frontier against the Indians. He was confined for a time in a hospital at Sauk Center as the result of an injury to his foot, caused by a runaway accident. In 1865 he returned to Mower county and took up farming in Lyle township, where he purchased 160 acres. To this tract he added from time to time until he owned 320 acres, following farming in Lyle township, and dividing his place of residence between the township and village until 1891, when he removed to Austin, where he lived nine years. In 1900 he purchased his present home, prettily located on the banks of the Red Cedar river near Vareo station. He rents out his land and is enjoying the rest that his many years of hard toil well deserves. Mr. Carter is a Republican in politics. He served nearly three years as deputy sheriff of Mower county; was village recorder of Lyle for one year; mayor of Lyle village one year; justice of the peace in Lyle township several terms and assessor of Lyle village and township for fourteen years. He belongs to the Masonic order and to the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was married September 23, 1863, to Mary E. Burgess, daughter of Johnathan Burgess, who came to Lyle township in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have been blessed with seven children: Charles L., Edward F., Carrie, Minnie, Orel L., Nellie M., and Edith. Charles L. is a manufacturer, living in Fort Dodge, Iowa; Edward F. is a telegraph operator in Mojara, Cal.; Carrie is the wife of John J. Ingledrum, a real estate dealer in South Bend, Ind.; Minnie is the wife of Edward DeGraff, a jeweler, of LeRoy, Minn.; Oral L., a former teacher, is the wife of Fred Lewis, a traveling salesman out of Austin; Nellie M. is the wife of John Lewis, of Austin; Edith is the wife of W. J. Tyler, of Coeur d'Alene, the editor of the Journal in

that place. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Carter has many recollections of the early days in this state. In the spring of 1863, as he often tells with relish, he rented a piece of land in section 27, Austin township, before enlisting in the army. When he left for the frontier he gave his father charge of the matter and requested him to dispose of the wheat which in harvest time was to come to him for the rental of the land. His father had the wheat threshed, and at a cost of thirty cents a bushel hauled to Winona, where it brought but forty cents per bushel. This, Mr. Carter declares, was his last experience at renting land.

John A. Carter was born in Vermont, of French extraction, and went to Canada as a boy. There he married Charlotte Phelps, a native of New Hampshire, of English descent, who was also taken to Canada as a child. They came to the United States in 1854, located in Burlington, Wis., and there remained until the fall of 1859, when they came to Minnesota and located in Austin township, at the place then known as Cedar City. The following spring they moved to section 27, and in 1861 bought forty acres of land in section 29. Later they sold out and took up their residence with their son Dan in Lyle township, John A. passing away in 1898 and his wife in 1892.

Patrick H. Carr, for a decade and a half the justice of the peace in Adams village, is a prominent man in his vicinity and well fitted for the office with which he has been honored by his fellow citizens. He was born in Rutland, Vt., March 8, 1851, son of John and Mary (Stanton) Carr, natives of County Mayo, Ireland. In early youth he learned the carpenters' trade and followed this at Adams and several other places. In 1883 he was in charge of a large bridge crew for Winston Bros., contractors for the Northern Pacific, at Missoula, Mont. He subsequently followed carpentering, contracting and bridge building continuously until 1895, when he was elected justice of the peace in the village of Adams. In this capacity he has served continuously, with the exception of one term, since 1895. He is also engaged successfully in the real estate and insurance business. Mr. Carr has been financier of the A. O. U. W. for many years, with much credit. The subject of this sketch was married at Austin, November 26, 1875, to Lyda Bodine, of that city. She died February 21, 1880, at Sumner, Iowa, leaving one son, Benjamin J., born November 22, 1876. Benjamin joined the United States army in 1898 and is still in the service. During his service in the Philippines he acted in the commissary department. Patrick H. Carr is a Democrat in politics and a Catholic in religion.

John and Mary (Stanton) Carr were born in County Mayo,

Ireland, and as children came with their parents to Vermont, where they were married and remained until 1852, when they came west to Portage, Wis., where they took up a claim and engaged in farming until 1854, when they removed to Freeport, Ill., where the head of the family engaged in teaming until 1858. In that year they went to Winona, and there Mr. Carr continued as a teamster. In 1859 they returned to Freeport and there remained until the summer of 1863, when they went to Minona, Iowa. There Mr. Carr engaged in railroad contracting for the C. M. & St. P., reaching Adams in the summer of 1867. Here he engaged in the hotel business, owning also a farm in Adams township. In 1880 he retired. He died in 1900, and his wife is still living at the ripe old age of eighty years. They were the parents of ten children: Patrick H.; Mary, wife of William Burke, of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Margaret, wife of Hon. Samuel Sweningsen, now of Long Beach, Cal.; John W., a merchant in Adams; James, carpenter and builder, of Adams; Nellie, wife of Charles Gilligan, an extensive farmer of Adams township; Sarah, who lives at home; William, railroad carpenter, of Adams; Vencensia, who married William Dodge, and died November 15, 1909, leaving five children, four of whom are living in Adams with their grandmother, Mrs. Mary Carr. Michael Carr died in his infancy at Rockford, Ill.

T. F. Cummings, Austin business man, proprietor of the T. F. Cummings bottling works, sole owner and general manager of the Cummings Brush Manufacturing Company, as well as co-partner in the Hub bottling works at Mason City, Iowa, was born in Berlin, Wis., October 15, 1865, son of Martin and Bridget (Smith) Cummings. He attended the schools of his neighborhood at Cedar Falls, Iowa, to which place he was taken by his parents in 1870. Later he took a course in the State Normal school at the same place. After leaving school he entered into the grocery business at Allison, Butler county, Iowa, and after a few years embarked in a similar line in Iowa Falls, conducting both stores at the same time. In February, 1894, he came to Austin and engaged in the manufacture and distribution of soda water and soft drinks, making a specialty of carbonated water and the Siloam Springs water. Mr. Cummings is an independent voter, and belongs to the C. O. F., the B. P. O. E. and the U. C. T. He attends the Catholic church. The subject of this sketch was married in December, 1893, to Maud Hursey, and this union has been blessed with one son, Paul, born August 8, 1896.

Martin Cummings and Bridget Smith, his wife, were natives of Ireland, and came to America as children. For many years they lived in Berlin, Wis., and in 1866 moved with their family to

Iowa, locating near Cedar Falls. After twenty years they moved to Cedar Falls village, and there both died.

The Cummings Brush Manufacturing Company has been in operation since August, 1910, and while only a new business, it has created a great demand for its manufactured goods. The Cummings brushes are on the market in many of our largest cities, handled by jobbers and wholesalers in Cincinnati, New York city, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha, Council Bluffs, Minneapolis, St. Paul, LaCrosse, Dubuque, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, and many other towns and villages. Mr. Cummings has put out a very neat and up-to-date catalogue and his system of putting manufactured goods on the market has proved a success in every line he has undertaken.

Mr. Cummings will add more machinery and increase the capacity to meet the demands for his manufactured goods.

Edward D. Claggett, of Austin, the southern Minnesota and northern Iowa agent for Hamm's Brewing Company, was born in Oshkosh, Wis., March 8, 1863, going to Waupun, Wis., when very young, moving with his family to Brown county, Minnesota, at the age of fourteen years. After attaining manhood's estate he opened a livery at Princeton, Mille Laes county, this state, and conducted it for ten years. In 1896 he was elected sheriff of that county and held the position eight years, in the meantime serving the city of Princeton as marshal for six years. In the winter of 1905 he moved to St. Paul, served as sergeant-at-arms at the first session of the legislature held in the new capitol, and then went on the road two years for a St. Paul wholesale house. April 20, 1907, he came to Austin and took up the duties of his present position. He belongs to the B. P. O. E., the K. of P., and the I. O. O. F., as well as to the Austin Commercial Club and the Austin and Mower County Automobile Club. The subject of this sketch was married in April, 1890, and to this union one daughter, Edna M., was born.

R. A. Carmichael, jailer of Mower county, and deputy sheriff under Nicholas Nicholson, was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, August 25, 1859, son of John and Eleanor (Fowler) Carmichael, of Scotch and English descent, the former dying in 1881 and the latter in 1859. R. A. received his early education in the public schools and then took a course in the State Normal school at Edinborough, Pa. He then started teaching at the age of eighteen years, but two years later, on account of his father's health, and his desire to be with him, he gave up teaching and took a course in the Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Then he returned home and took charge of the home farm until April, 1884, after which he went to Schuyler, in Colfax county, Nebraska, and engaged in breeding and selling horses.

The following year he returned to Pennsylvania and took up work as a carpenter for the Standard Oil Company, at Oil City, Pa. In October, 1886, he came west, worked on a construction crew for the C., M. & St. P. at Austin and Minneapolis two years, and then on construction work for the Soo line from Minneapolis to Sault Ste. Marie for a time. After a short trip east, he again came to Austin in January, 1891, and worked as a carpenter until 1894. Then he was appointed on the police force, and served eight years. January 1, 1905, he assumed his present duties. Mr. Carmichael is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the Austin Commercial Club. He was married September 16, 1881, to Anna M. McConnell, who died January 5, 1885. One son, J. Dudley, was born July 22, 1882, and died December 26, 1884, both he and his mother succumbing to black diphtheria at Schuyler, Neb. Mr. Carmichael was married the second time, January 29, 1891, to Mary E. Adams, of Austin, and this union has resulted in two children: H. Marcella, June 27, 1901, and Mildred E., born October 12, 1902. The family residence is at 108 North Chatham street.

George N. Campbell was born in Frederickton, New Brunswick, May 2, 1841, there received his education and grew to manhood. At a suitable age he took up the blacksmith trade, thoroughly mastering that branch of industry. In 1875 he came to Mower county and located at Taopi, where he took up his trade as blacksmith, which he followed until 1897, when he was appointed postmaster, a position he retained until his death, November 21, 1902. Mr. Campbell was a Republican in politics and served as a member of the village council, always taking an active part in the progress and betterment of the village of which he was one of the earliest settlers. He was married October 7, 1891, at LeRoy, this county, to Jane Wright, and to this union was born one daughter, Hazel M., who died March 24, 1902, at seven years of age. Mrs. Campbell was appointed to succeed her husband, and has held the position ever since.

Mrs. Jane Wright Campbell, postmistress at Taopi, was born in Arena, Iowa county, Wisconsin, April 30, 1857, daughter of Thomas and Emma Wright, natives of England, who came to America in 1854, located in Troy, N. Y., and there remained until 1857, when they came to Arena, Wis., where they engaged in farming the balance of their days. Jane Wright received her education in the public schools of Arena and remained at home with her mother until her marriage on October 7, 1891, at LeRoy, this county, to George N. Campbell. They established their home in Taopi, and since her husband's death Mrs. Campbell has served most efficiently as postmistress, being a thorough business woman

who has given general satisfaction both to the patrons of the office and to the postoffice department.

Frank D. Cronon, the genial and efficient city clerk of Austin, was born in this city August 25, 1877, son of James and Mary (Kelley) Cronon. He attended the public schools and worked for several years in his father's store, remaining there until the latter's death, after which Frank D. continued the business until 1909, when the business was sold out and he went on the road for Foley Bros. & Kelley, grocers. In 1910 Mr. Cronon was elected to his present office and took up his duties in August. He belongs to the I. C. M. A., the Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Foresters, and the South Dakota Traveling Men's Association. The subject of this sketch was married to Mary Quinlan, at Harvard, Ill., daughter of John Quinlan, of Lake Geneva, Wis. Mrs. Cronon was born at Elgin, Ill., and this union has been blessed with two children: Francis Warren and Robert Wendall.

James Cronon was born in Saratoga, N. Y., and married Mary Kelley, a native of Richmond, Virginia. He came to Austin in the seventies and opened a cigar and confectionery store, which he conducted until his death, January 12, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Cronon had four children, Ida, Frank D., Angela and Agnes.

I. B. Christianson, a well-known citizen of Udolpho, in which his parents were among the very earliest settlers, was born in that township October 31, 1876, son of Bennett and Barbro (Ingerbretson) Christianson. He was reared on the home farm, attended the schools of his neighborhood and supplemented this with a course at St. Ansgar, Iowa. Five years ago he purchased his present farm, erected a home and other buildings, and has since carried on general farming. Ever since residing in his present location he has been a member of the school board, and he is active in the cause of education. He married Betsey Egtvet and they have four children, Leon, Berther, Ruby and Irene. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Bennett Christianson, the Udolpho pioneer, was born in Norway, November 11, 1843, and in 1846 came with his parents to Dane County, Wis. In 1855 the family came to Mower county and settled in section 19, Udolpho township. The father of Bennett died in 1874. Bennett was married in 1870 to Barbara Ingerbretson, and this union resulted in ten children: Rosa, Mary D., Christian B., Ingerbret, Jane C., Clara B., Lena, Maline, Inga and Bennie. Mr. Christianson served the township in various capacities at different times, including the offices of treasurer and member of the town board.

Carl A. Carlson, now deceased, for many years a foundry owner in Austin, was born in Sweden, married there, and came to America in 1870. They at once located in Austin, where for a

time Mr. Carlson worked at his trade as blacksmith for the C., M. & St. Paul. After a time, in company with a partner, he went into the foundry business for himself, the firm name being Carlson & Anderson. This concern did a general foundry business, but after a time ill health compelled Mr. Carlson to retire. He patiently endured an illness extending over the long period of nine years, and finally departed this life June 12, 1910. Mr. Carlson married Anna Matilda Olson, daughter of Carl Olson, the latter being a native of Sweden, who farmed all his life and died in South Dakota in 1898. To Mr. and Mrs. Carlson were born six children: Hattie, now Mrs. John Anderson; Anna, now Mrs. L. F. Clausen; C. Arthur, Herbert, and Abbie, now Mrs. C. E. Hoveland.

Thomas Cronan, retired elevator owner, now living in Austin, was born in Northfield, Vt., May 18, 1858, son of Patrick and Mary (Grace) Cronan. He was brought to Rose Creek by his parents in 1868, and here he was reared to manhood, receiving a good common education in the public schools. When he grew to manhood he entered the elevator business with his brother, John, and in this line he continued until his retirement from active business in 1909. In 1910 he took up his permanent residence in Austin. While in Rose Creek he served as postmaster three years, and was school treasurer some seventeen years. He is a member of the Elks, the Foresters and the United Workmen. Mr. Cronan married Mark Keefe, daughter of Cornelius Keefe, and they have one child, Esther.

Patrick Cronan was born in Ireland and there married Mary Grace. They came to America in 1849 or 1850, and lived in Boston, Mass., three or four years, after which they located in Northfield, Vt. They came to Rose Creek in 1868.

Michael Carroll, who has farmed for a quarter of a century, on section 35, Red Rock township, was born in Ireland, October 29, 1842, son of Daniel and Mary (Dolan) Carroll. He came to America in 1863, and after living a year in Waterbury, Conn., worked in various places in various employments, and finally took up railroading, serving several years in the employ of the C., M. & St. P. In 1886 he came to Red Rock, purchased the quarter section where he now resides, and built a shack in which the family lived until he built the comfortable home wherein he now resides. Mr. Carroll married Katherine McDonald, daughter of Thomas and Bridget (Maughan) McDonald, and the children born were named William, Daniel, Edward, John, James (deceased), Michael, Mary, Frank, Agnes and Anna. Mary married Michael Daley. The family faith is that of the St. Augustine church, Austin.

Robert Collins, a popular farmer of Mower county, has a fine farm, of which eighty acres is in section 25, Windom township, and forty acres in section 30, Marshall township. He has a pleasant home, good barns and modern machinery. Robert Collins was born March 3, 1856, in Illinois. When young he was taken by his parents to Janesville, Wis., three years later to Iowa county, Wisconsin, and was there reared and educated. After living there twelve years he came to Windom township and purchased his present farm, since which date he has continued in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Collins is a Democrat in politics and attends the Catholic church. He was married June 6, 1877, to Katherine Madden, daughter of William Madden and Bridget (Larkin) Madden, both natives of Ireland, who came to this country in 1842 and first settled in Freeport, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Collins have six children: William, of Nelson county, North Dakota; Michael, at home; Robert, of Nelson county, North Dakota; Thomas and Frances, at home, and Mary, a teacher at Campbell, Minn.

Nicholas Cress, now deceased, was an estimable citizen of Windom township, hard working, honest and substantial. He was born in Germany, December 16, 1849, son of John and Elizabeth Cress, also born in Germany. He came to this country at about seventeen years of age, and located in Dubuque, where he remained about two years. Then he came to Windom township and soon purchased 280 acres of land, 160 of which was located in section 36, Windom, and 120 in section 31, Marshall township. On this place he conducted successful farming operations until his lamented death, February 18, 1903. He was married November 17, 1874, to Margaret Majerus, daughter of Peter and Kathrina Majerus, both natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Cress were born nine children: John, deceased; Anna, wife of J. B. Fink, of Rose Creek; Michael, deceased; Peter, a physician, of Ellsworth, Minn.; Henry, deceased; William, who farms on the old homestead; John and Mary, at home, and Henry, deceased. Mrs. Cress resides in Rose Creek village. The parents of Mrs. Cress came from Germany to Staceyville, Iowa, and thence to Rose Creek, where the mother died. The father died in Lyle township, July 28, 1902.

Henry Dennis, oldest son of Sylvester A. and Rebecka (Arnold) Dennis, was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, was reared on his father's farm, and at the age of twenty-three married Caroline Abrahamson, daughter of Augustus and Maria (Anderson) Abrahamson, the latter of whom was born in 1827, both parents being natives of Sweden. After his marriage, Henry Dennis went to farming in Udolpho township and continued in this occupation for twenty-seven years before coming to the city

of Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dennis have one son, Alfred H., who now manages the home farm. He married Helen Kunotson, and they have two children, Ervin and Hazel C.

Thomas Dugan, a retired blacksmith, now living in Austin, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., April 30, 1844, son of Cormick and Catherine (McNab) Dugan. At the age of fourteen Thomas started out in life for himself by hiring out to a farmer in Rock county, Wisconsin. In 1861 he went to Janesville, in the same state, and learned the blacksmith trade. There he remained until 1866, when he came to Minnesota and purchased 160 acres of wild land in London township, Freeborn county. On this tract he built a log house and farmed for two years, but after that left his wife to manage the farm and took up work at his trade in Austin. After three years of the arrangement he sold his farm and moved his family to Austin. In 1871 he engaged in business for himself in this city and was very successful in all his undertakings, doing general smithy work and manufacturing vehicles of various kinds. In 1902 he sold out this business, and also a farm of 160 acres which he had purchased in Lansing township, and retired. For seventeen years Mr. Dugan was chief of the Austin fire department, was president of the State Firemen's Association in 1899, and in 1898 was elected fifth president of the National Firemen's Association, at the convention held in Chicago. He has also been through the chairs of the local I. O. O. F. The subject of this sketch was married April 1, 1864, at Porter, Rock county, Wisconsin, to Elizabeth Robertson, daughter of George and Margaret (Lang) Robertson, and this union has been blessed with ten children: Minnie M., George W., Catherine, Flora E., Harry, Sheridan E., Mary, an infant, M. Jean, and Hazel Isabel. Minnie was born July 19, 1865, and is now Mrs. Charles Crocker, of Lincoln, Neb. George W. was born February 9, 1867, and lives in Austin. Catherine was born September 26, 1868, and is now Mrs. William Nichols, of Fargo, N. D. Flora E., born October 15, 1870, lives on a farm near Napoleon, N. D., and is now Mrs. W. O. Harrison. Harry was born September 17, 1872, and also lives near Napoleon, N. D. Sheridan E., born October 4, 1874, now lives in Bismarck, N. D. Mary was born September 27, 1876. The unnamed infant was born February 22, 1884. M. Jean was born March 1, 1886. She graduated from the Austin high school and from the Winona State Normal school with high honors, and is now a successful teacher. Hazel Isabel was born September 15, 1887, graduated from the Lincoln new high school, and is now a successful teacher. Cormick Dugan came to America from Tyrone county, Ireland, in 1836, and two years later brought over his family, his wife, Catherine McNab, being a native of the same county. After living a while in Taun-

ton, Mass., they came west in 1842 and located in Milwaukee, Wis. There Cormick was a stock buyer and was meeting with much success in this line, when in 1846 he met an untimely end, being killed by a savage kick from a horse. His wife followed him to the Great Beyond, April 13, 1855.

George Robertson was born in Scotland, and there married Margaret Lang, a native of the same country. They came to America in 1844, located in Porter, Rock county, Wisconsin, and engaged in farming until George Robertson died in 1859. The family then lived on the farm until 1865, when they sold out and came to Minnesota, locating in London township, Freeborn county, on a farm. In 1881 Mrs. Robertson sold her farm and made her home with her children until her death in Austin, in 1896. Their daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Dugan, was born November 14, 1846, at Porter, Rock county, Wisconsin.

Andrew Dovenberg, now deceased, never resided in Mower county, but has a large family here, his widow and children having taken up their residence in Austin after his death. He was born in Germany, came to America, located in Indiana, and there in 1863 was married, his wife's maiden name being Barbara Rush. She was born in Germany in 1846, and came to America with her parents when but two years of age. Her parents remained in Hamilton, Ohio, six years and then located in Indiana. There the marriage took place, and in 1869 Mr. and Mrs. Dovenberg went to Ridgeway, Iowa, and remained four years. Preston, Minn., was their next dwelling place. There Mr. Dovenberg was injured by one of his horses, and from the effects of the accident died shortly afterward. Subsequent to the death of her husband Mrs. Dovenberg took up her residence in Austin, where she has since lived, at the present time making her home in a fine residence on Mill street. She has worked hard for her children, and in them she takes her greatest joy and pride, her great grandchildren, Donald and Vera, being her special happiness. The nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Dovenberg were Elizabeth, Dora, George, John, Louis, Edward, Daniel, Cora and Emma. Elizabeth married William Brown, and they live in Decorah, Iowa, having twelve children: Leah, Reuben, Roy, Raymond, William, Daisy, Carlisle, Claude, Ned, Harry, Daniel and Sadie. Leah, the oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Brown, married Adam Barsh, and they have two children, Donald and Vera. Dora, the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dovenberg, married John Furtney, and they have three children: Raymond, Hazel and Dorothy. George married Sarah Mapes and they have three children: Earle, Vernon and Ladice. John married Sarah Hale. Louis married Ella Swainson and they have two children, Doris and Donald. Edward and Daniel, the sixth and seventh children of Mr. and

Mrs. Dovenberg, are engineers on the C., M. & St. P. Cora and Emma are at home. Cora is a dressmaker and Emma assistant bookkeeper at Hormel's provision market.

George D. Detwiler, of Austin, was born in Ontario, Canada, and there married Elizabeth (Kepkey) Detwiler, also a native of the same province. They came to Minnesota in 1879, located in Austin, and became well-to-do citizens. George D. was at first a mason contractor, but of late he has devoted the larger part of his time to house moving. His wife died February 10, 1910. Their son, John E., is a prominent real estate dealer of Austin. Two daughters, Mary A., living at Austin, and Anna B., at Chicago.

John E. Detwiler, the real estate, insurance and loan broker, was born in Port Elgin, Ontario, and as a boy was brought to Austin, where he has since spent the larger part of his time. He was educated in the public schools, and then in 1889 started out to see the world before settling down. Acting as a picture canvasser, he toured the Pacific coast for one year, visiting all the important towns and also many of the smaller ones all along the line from Victoria, B. C., to San Francisco. After returning to Austin he went to Minneapolis, studied a short time in the law department of the University of Minnesota, and then in 1891 entered a law school at St. Louis, Mo. Again he returned to Austin and entered into the insurance business, later taking up railroad work, but still later again resuming the insurance line. In 1900 he formed a partnership with his father in the house-moving business and continued thus until January 1, 1910, when he again took up real estate, farm loans and insurance, dealing extensively in Minnesota and Dakota lands. Mr. Detwiler served eight years as a member of Company G, Second Regiment, M. N. G., and in 1896 resigned, at that time having attained the rank of second lieutenant. During the Spanish-American war he recruited a volunteer company, but it was never called into service, and after the battle of Santiago, was disbanded. Mr. Detwiler is a member of the Masonic order and of the M. W. A. He also belongs to the Austin Commercial club, is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Baptist church. The subject of this sketch was married January 30, 1906, at Austin, to Grace E. Baird, daughter of Mrs. George Baird, and this union has been blessed with one child, Baird E., born April 11, 1908. The family residence is at 302 South St. Paul.

Henry F. Deming, a well-known farmer of Nevada township, now living in Austin, was born in Antwerp, Jefferson county, New York, December 25, 1825, son of the Rev. Rufus and Julia M. (Porter) Deming. He received his education in the public schools of New York, and in a grammar school taught by his

father. After his school days were over he farmed for a while and then taught school in New York state and Canada. In 1856 he removed to Wisconsin and farmed and taught school until 1863, when he came to Mower county and located in Nevada township, where he took a homestead of 100 acres in section 6. This was wild land, but he soon had it under cultivation and yielding abundantly. In 1883 he removed to Austin township, and in 1892 purchased forty acres of school land, where he remained until 1910, when he retired and moved to a pleasant home situated on five acres of land just outside of the city limits of Austin. While in Nevada township Mr. Deming served as supervisor of Nevada township eight years, and as clerk and treasurer of the school board for many terms. He also represented his district in the lower house of the state legislature in 1876. Owing to his early experience as a teacher, Mr. Deming has continued through life as an ardent friend of all educational movements, and he helped to organize no less than two districts in Nevada township, the better to supply the school needs of the township. The subject of this sketch was married April 12, 1853, at Cattaraugus, Franklin county, New York, to Mary E. Bennett, who died April 14, 1909, leaving four children: Charles F., of Canby, Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota; Jessie, who is with her father; Eva, now Mrs. William Clift, and Bertha, now Mrs. Harry Buck. The family attends the Presbyterian church. Rev. Rufus Deming was born in New York state, graduated from Hamilton college, and was ordained a Presbyterian clergyman. This profession he followed in New York state all his life. He died April 12, 1868, his wife, Julia A. Porter, passing away February 24, 1873.

Warren H. Dean, the capable cashier of the State bank, of Rose Creek, was born in Austin, Minn., February 7, 1876, son of Warren H. and Sophrona (Hubbard) Dean. He attended the Northfield public schools and then entered Carleton college, attending that institution two years. Later he entered the Riverview Military Academy at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and remained there two years, continuing his studies by taking a one year business course at the Eastman college, in the same city. In 1903 he came to Mower county and located at Adams and entered the First National bank for the purpose of learning the banking business, later becoming the assistant cashier. In 1906 he came to Rose Creek and accepted his present position as cashier of the Rose Creek State bank, of which his mother is president. In this capacity he has proven a capable business man, and has performed his duties to his own credit, and to the satisfaction of the public at large. He also deals in real estate and insurance, is a stockholder in the First National Bank of

Adams and has other business holdings. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Masons, the B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A.

Warren H. Dean was born in Deposit, Boone county, New York, November 10, 1820. He engaged in the lumber business at Ithaca, N. Y., for a number of years, after which he removed to New York city and entered the lumber firm of H. W. Sage as a partner, remaining twenty years. Leaving New York, he established a large lumber business at Toledo, Ohio, remaining in that city until 1871, when he moved to St. Paul, Minn. In 1872 he built the first line of street railway in that city. In 1874 he sold his interest in the street railway, receiving in part payment several large tracts of land in Mower county, besides city property in St. Paul. After spending one year in travel with his family he moved to Mower county and began the improvement of his land. Mr. Dean was twice married. His first wife died, leaving two sons, Harry and Oscar, only one of whom is now living. He was married the second time, at Toledo, Ohio, to Sophronia Hubbard. To this marriage were born four children, all of whom are now living: William W., Mrs. A. J. Woodecock, Warren H. and Mrs. H. C. Maughan. After Mr. Dean's death the family removed to Northfield, where the children were educated. Mr. Dean died October 7, 1880, and Mrs. Dean now lives in Minneapolis.

Swend K. Dahle, living in section 13, Red Rock township, was born in Hardanger, Norway, October 8, 1864, son of Knute Olson Dahle and Anna T. (Holven) Dahle. Swend K. came to America in 1886, with his brother, Knute, and arrived in Brownsdale, June 16, of that year. He worked out until he was married in 1891, and then came to the farm he now occupies. This place consists of 340 well tilled acres, with large orchard and suitable trees, a remodeled farm house originally erected in 1874, fine barns and modern machinery. In 1910 he erected two silos, one on each of his farms. Mr. Dahle is a straight Republican, and was town treasurer five years. He married Edna M., daughter of Archibald and Ellen (Simpson) Rockwell, and they are the parents of three children: Ella H. K., aged fifteen years; Harold K., aged eleven years, and Pearl F., aged three years.

N. K. Dahle, hardware merchant, and president of the State Bank of Brownsdale, was born in Norway, May 3, 1856, son of Knute O. Dahle, and came to America in 1880. May 18 of that year he located in Brownsdale, this county. For three years he pursued his trade as a tailor, working in Minneapolis and other places until 1883, after which he worked in a hardware store in Minneapolis, three years. In 1886 he purchased a hardware store in Hayfield, Minn., and after seven years of success there, sold out and went to Cheney, Spokane county, Washington, where



JOHN EAGEN AND FAMILY.

he purchased a hardware store which he conducted for four years. In 1897 he sold out and returned to Brownsdale, where he engaged in the hardware business with his brother. Six years later he purchased his brother's interest and has since continued the business alone. When the State Bank was organized in 1904 he became president and has since retained that position. Mr. Dahle takes an interest in everything pertaining to the growth and welfare of Brownsdale and is a thorough believer in education. He takes a prominent part in the activities of the school board, of which he is a prominent member, and is also a popular member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M. He married Julia Distad, of Hayfield, and they have three children: Clarence, Chester and Gertrude.

Cornelius Downey, a substantial farmer of Windom township, was born in Ontario, Canada, May 11, 1855, son of Thomas and Bridget (Mangen) Downey, natives of Ireland who came to Canada in 1847, and to Chippewa county, Wisconsin, in 1877, the father dying there April 28, 1882, and the mother, June 28, 1889, leaving nine children: Ellen, Johannah (deceased), Michael, Mary, Thomas (deceased), Maggie, Cornelius, John (deceased) and Bridget. Cornelius remained with his parents until twenty-six years of age, and came to Minnesota in 1885. At once upon his arrival here he located on the 176 acres in section 31, Windom township, where he still resides, carrying on farming in a modern manner. He was married July 12, 1881, to Catherine McCauley, daughter of James and Nancy McCauley, natives of Vermont, who came to America in 1847, lived a time in Vermont, came to Houston county, Minnesota, in 1854, and there ended their days, the father dying September 4, 1886, and the mother November 1, 1894. To Mr. and Mrs. Downey have been born eight children: Mary is the wife of M. B. Perkins, of Windom township; Margaret (deceased); John, Thomas and Elmer are in Austin; Alice and Thresa live at home; Catherine (deceased).

John Eagen, who has resided on his present farm in Red Rock township since 1868, was born in Canada, May 1, 1843, and as a small boy was taken first to Illinois and later to Brookfield, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where his parents died. John Eagen came to Mower county in July, 1865, and rented land in Red Rock township until 1868, when he took up his residence in a log cabin which he built on section 25. This log cabin was replaced with a modern dwelling in 1898, but the old cabin is still standing, carefully preserved as a valued relic of the past. The farm consists of 160 well tilled acres of land. Mr. Eagen has not cared to engage actively in politics, but has consented at various times to serve as treasurer and pathmaster of the town. John Eagen was married August 28, 1859, to Ellen M. McGovern, daughter

of Terrance and Bridget (Carson) McGovern, born in Monroe county, New York, January 13, 1849. Mr. and Mrs. Eagen are the parents of six children: Francis M., Margaret A., Charles A., William J., Philip Howard and Joseph. Francis M. died in infancy. Margaret A. married M. J. Keenan, and they have three children: Helen (deceased), Geraldine and Eleanor. Charles A. lives in Austin. William J. has a farm near his parents' farm and operates both places. He married Maude Rector, of Lansing, and they have three children: Myron P. (deceased), Arnold E. and Walter P. Philip Howard married Margaret, now deceased, a daughter of W. H. Lawrence, and they had four children: Elwin, Harry, Francis L. (deceased), and Donald J. P. H. owns a farm in Red Rock township. Joseph, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Eagen, is dead. Charles A. was married to Marie Nipstad, of Austin. They have three children; John B., Alyious F. and Margaret E.

Lars P. Egtvet, who owns and operates a fine farm in the neighborhood of Corning, was born in Vos, Norway, in 1843, and came to this country with his parents in 1846. They settled on a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, and there Lars received his education and grew to sturdy manhood amid agricultural pursuits. After reaching the years of maturity, he left home and came to Freeborn county, remaining, however, but a few months. He subsequently lived a year in Udolpho and four years in Red Rock, coming to Lansing township in 1885. He has been very successful, lives in comfort, and has raised a fine family. His farm of 191 acres of well tilled land lies partially in Freeborn county and partially in Mower county. Mr. Egtvet was married in 1869 to Ingebor Winger, and this union has been blessed with eleven children, of whom nine are living. They are: Emma, Irena, Betsy, Peter, Edwin, Henry, Oliver, George and Hattie E. Emma is the wife of Lars Hanson; Irena is the wife of T. Nelson; Betsy is the wife of Ingerbright Christianson; Edwin and Oliver live in Dakota.

A. M. Elmer, a successful young farmer of Austin township, has charge of 265 acres owned by his parents, and has demonstrated his fitness for the responsibility. He was born in Green county, Wisconsin, December 13, 1889, son of J. P. and Fannie Elmer, coming to Mower county with them in 1900 at the age of eleven years. He attended the district schools of his native county and Austin township, taking courses in the Austin high school and the Southern Minnesota Normal college, graduating from the latter in 1907. He at once upon graduation entered the Union National Bank, at Minot, N. D., in a clerical position, and was later employed by the First National Bank, of Aberdeen, S. D., returning to his home in the spring of 1910. September 19

of that year he married Mary Miller, of Prentice, Wis. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. P. Elmer was born in Green county, Wisconsin, and there married Fannie Elmer, a native of the same county. In 1900 they came to Austin township and purchased 265 acres of land in section 16, where they took up their home. At the present time they are in North Dakota, and their son has charge of the farm. Aside from this son, A. M., there are five other children: Mrs. Lucinda Paulson, of Crosby, N. D.; Samuel, of the United States navy; Adam, cashier of a dairy lunch at Minneapolis; Walter, who is at home on the farm, and Floretta, of Crosby, N. D.

Edward H. Elward, who is connected with the Austin fire department, was born in Benson, Vt., September 25, 1861, son of Michael and Elizabeth Elward, both natives of Ireland. In early life Edward H. attended the district schools of Vermont and then in 1880 came to Austin, in which vicinity he farmed from that date until 1892, when he accepted his present position with the city. He affiliates with the Elks, the Woodmen, the Workmen and the Odd Fellows. Mr. Elward was married for the first time to Mary Prouty, by whom he had five children; Lee, who married Mary Woodward; Lynn, William, Walter and Ruth. Mr. Elward married for his second wife Inize Prouty, and to this union have been born two children, John and Paul.

John F. Fairbanks, for twenty-six years past a successful dealer in coal, fuel and lime, at Austin, was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, July 25, 1857, son of Alonzo Fairbanks, a war-time miller in Austin, and later a Mower county farmer. John F. passed through the usual experiences of the average farmer boy, worked on the farm, attended the district schools and grew to healthy young manhood. He worked for a time in an elevator and then engaged in the business which he still conducts. Mr. Fairbanks married Mary Vaughn, daughter of Albert Vaughn, a native of Virginia, and they have two sons, Harold V. and Rodney Dean. Mr. Fairbanks is an Odd Fellow, and for many years has served on the Austin school board. He is a member of the Methodist church and of the Republican party.

Alonzo Fairbanks was born in Vermont and married Ellen M. Backus. They came west in 1855 and located in Mitchell county, Iowa, remaining there until 1861, when Alonzo came to Austin, and after working for a time in a saw mill, became interested in the milling business with the Bemis brothers. At that time the business was in but primitive shape and Mr. Fairbanks soon returned to his former occupation as a farmer. He now resides in Blooming Prairie, Minn. His wife died in 1887.

William A. Frazer, M. D., a well-liked physician and surgeon.

of Lyle, was born in Bedford, Bedford county, Pennsylvania, August 5, 1850, son of William and Hanna (Davis) Frazer, with whom he went to Illinois in 1861, and to Arkansas in 1868, William Frazier dying in 1885 and Hanna Frazer in 1878. William A. attended the public schools of Illinois and Arkansas, and then entered the University of Kansas City, graduating from the medical department in 1886. In addition to this he has taken special courses in postgraduate work in Chicago in 1890, 1896 and 1900, thus keeping thoroughly abreast with the latest developments in the realms of medicine and surgery. After practicing in Lynn county, Kansas, in a village called Blooming Grove, Dr. Frazer came to Lyle in 1888 and has since maintained his office here, having a large practice in village and county. Being thoroughly ethical in his profession, he has allied himself with the American, the Minnesota State and the Mower County Medical Associations, of which latter he has served as president. He is at present the village health officer, has been justice of the peace, and belongs to the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Brotherhood of America. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and in religion holds to the stern tenets of the Quakers, though he attends the Congregational church. Dr. Frazer married Viola C. Johnson, of Hindsville, Ark., the ceremony taking place February 3, 1875. This union has been blessed with six children, four of whom are living: May is a student at one of the colleges at Oxford University, Oxford, England; Ray is manager of the Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company, at Minneapolis; J. D. lives at home and is an insurance agent; William M. is a student in the University of Minnesota.

Robert M. Foster, one of the venerable pioneers, has nearly reached the four score and ten mark in his span of years. He was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, November 25, 1821, son of John and Catherine (Cosgray) Foster, the former born in Maryland and the latter in Ireland, she coming to America at the age of twelve years. Robert M. grew to manhood in Fayette county, and when twenty-two years of age went to Jefferson county, Ohio, there remaining ten years. He then started for Minnesota, taking a trip by rail to Pittsburg, Pa., thence to Cairo, Ill., by boat, then up the Mississippi to St. Louis, and thence to Dubuque, Iowa, remaining there a month. He then reached Forestville, in Fillmore county, this state, and on October 1, 1853, opened a little store, which has since been conducted by some one in the family, being at the present time managed by a nephew, Thomas J. Meighen. In 1876 Mr. Foster went four miles west of his first residence and purchased a half section in Forestville township, on which tract he farmed until 1885, when he sold out and purchased a half section near Preston, in the same county.

Mr. Foster has been practically retired for a number of years and now resides in his large and pleasant home on Kenwood avenue, spending the twilight years of his life surrounded by comfort and care. Mr. Foster married for his first wife, in 1854, Elizabeth Renslow, who bore him ten children, all of whom are living except one. Elizabeth Foster died on the farm near Preston, and later Mr. Foster married Magdaline Van Mackelenbergh, a native of Holland, on April 10, 1893.

Henry D. Fairbanks, partner in the firm of Fairbanks Brothers, leading photographers of Austin, was born in Brandon, Vt., April 13, 1869, son of Luke B. and Caro (Bowen) Fairbanks. Henry was brought to Mower county by his parents at the age of three years, and was here reared to manhood, attending the district schools of Windom township. At the age of 22 years he came to Austin, and took up the photographic art with E. H. Austin. Later he formed a partnership with G. S. Hildahl, but in 1894 Mr. Hildahl died and Guy L. Fairbanks took his place in the firm, the company assuming its present designation. They maintain branch studios at Adams, Blooming Prairie and Lyle. They have built up a large trade and do excellent work. Henry D. Fairbanks belongs to the Royal Arcanum, and to the Austin and Mower County Automobile Clubs. He was married September 3, 1895, to Kate Beach, of this place, and their union has been blessed with two children: Katie Marie and Howell. The family residence is at 709 Lansing avenue.

Guy L. Fairbanks, of Austin, partner in the firm of Fairbanks Brothers, photographers, was born in Windom township, this county, July 1, 1873, son of Luke B. and Caro (Bowen) Fairbanks. He spent his youth on the farm, and in 1892 went to California with his parents, working one year on a fruit farm. Then he took up photography in Redlands, Cal., and there remained until 1894, when he came back to Austin, and entered into partnership with his brother, Henry D. He was married April 5, 1909, to Ida M. Anshus, of Minneapolis, and they have one child, Grant G. The family residence is at 205 West Water street.

Philip H. Friend, one of the leading business men of Austin, where he has resided since 1888, has a flourishing trade, and both in a social and business way enjoys the confidence and trust of his fellow citizens. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, February 25, 1859, son of Abraham and Fannie (Strauss) Friend, who when he was still a young boy took him to Mendota, Illinois, where he received his education in the graded and high school. He then started in life for himself as a clothing clerk at Aurora, Ill., remaining one year. From there he engaged in the clothing business for himself in Clarinda, Ill., and in 1888 came

to Austin, where he engaged in his present business. He has built up a large patronage, his "Golden Eagle" clothing house being known far and near as a desirable place to secure men's and boys' clothing, bags and trunks, and all sorts of haberdashery. In 1899 Mr. Friend erected a fine home on North Kenwood avenue, where he still resides. He is a prominent member of the Masonic order and of the Knights of Pythias, as well as an active worker in the Austin Commercial Club. Philip H. Friend was married February 22, 1898, to Amy Rau, and this union has been blessed with two bright children, Edith and Philip R.

M. S. Fisch, a leading merchant of Austin, has been a resident of this city since 1900, and immediately upon his locating here became a prominent citizen, taking an active part in many public movements that tended to the progress of the business interests of the city. He was born in Caledonia, Houston county, Minnesota, October 5, 1862, son of Theodore and Eva (Manders) Fisch, the former of whom now lives in Minnesota Lake, Minn., the latter dying in November, 1907. Mr. Fisch was reared on a farm in Houston county, attended the schools of Caledonia and Freeberg, and remained at home until 19 years of age. After two years of railroad work on a section gang for the C. M. & St. P. he began clerical work in a store at Minnesota Lake. Four years later he opened a store of his own, and was appointed postmaster, continuing the store business there fourteen years. His postmastership continued eight years, the two terms of Cleveland's administration. While in Minnesota Lake he served on the school board six years, and on the city council for a similar period. He also became vice president of the First National Bank, of Minnesota Lake, a position he still retains. In 1900 Mr. Fisch came to Austin and engaged in the general merchandise business. He has built up a large trade, and enjoys the confidence of the entire community, his goods recommending themselves to a large number of customers, who are drawn to the store by its reputation for honest dealing and fair treatment. The store carries all the goods usually found in such a place, and has special dry goods, cloak and suits, and grocery departments. The store at Minnesota Lake is conducted under the same ownership, with a local manager in charge. Mr. Fisch is president of the Security State Bank, of Waldorf, Waseca county, Minnesota. He belongs to the Elks, the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Foresters, and votes the Democratic ticket. The subject of this sketch was married February 10, 1887, at Freeberg, Houston county, Minnesota, to Mary Dauwen, and this union has been blessed with five children. George T. and Edward N. are clerks in their father's store. Alta K., Herbert M. and Bernice A. are at school.

William M. Fowler, farmer, of Dexter township, was born in Licking county, Ohio, August 4, 1853, son of William and Hannah (Tyler) Fowler. He was taken to Wisconsin by his parents when six weeks of age, and thence to High Forest township in Olmsted county, where he attended school and grew to manhood. After his father's death in 1870 he took charge of the home farm until 1876, when with his mother he came to Mower county, where he purchased 160 acres of land in Pleasant Valley township. Here he followed farming until 1882, when he removed to Sergeant, and farmed for several years on rented land. After this he purchased 160 acres in Sergeant township, and carried on diversified farming until 1894. Then he sold this farm and until 1897 rented a farm in Grand Meadow township. In 1897 he moved to Dexter village and purchased sixteen acres inside the corporate limits, where he resided until 1910, when he sold and resumed farming operations in Grand Meadow township in 1911. He was married December 12, 1888, to Clara DeYoung, who was born in Cook county, Illinois, July 28, 1862. Two children were born to them, a son, Charles Homer, July 17, 1893, and a daughter, Nellie Ruth, August 20, 1897.

William Fowler was born in Massachusetts, March 31, 1815, and at the age of two years was taken by his parents to Ohio, where he was educated and grew to manhood. In Ohio he met and married Hannah Tyler, who was born in Vermont, May 9, 1829, and was taken to Ohio at the age of five years. In 1853 Mr. and Mrs. Fowler moved to Green Lake, Wis., and engaged in farming until 1866, when they came to Minnesota and took up their residence in Olmsted county, where William Fowler died in May, 1870. Since his death his wife has made her home largely in St. Paul. She is now living with her son, William M., at the advanced age of 81 years. Mr. and Mrs. William Fowler were the parents of five children: Lafayette P., of Montana; William M., of Dexter; J. C. Freemont (deceased); Byron, of St. Paul, and Zebina, now of Aberdeen, S. D. John DeYoung and Nellie Mastenbrook, parents of Mrs. William Fowler, were natives of Holland. They came to America at an early day and located in Cook county, Illinois. There they engaged in farming and truck gardening until 1867, when they removed to Kasson, Dodge county, this state, and after one year moved to Mower county and engaged in farming the remainder of their days, John DeYoung dying May 18, 1909, and his wife March 2, 1903. They were the parents of seven children: Kate DeYoung (deceased); James, of Spring Valley, Minn.; Clara, now Mrs. William M. Fowler, of Dexter; Jennie, now Mrs. John Sherman, of Grand Meadow township; Peter, of St. Paul; Minnie, now Mrs. Zebina

Fowler, of Aberdeen, S. D., and Mary, now Mrs. Stanley Vaughn, of Lansing township.

Matt Flemming, a prosperous resident of Marshall township, was born in Wisconsin, January 25, 1871, son of Matt Flemming, Sr., the pioneer. Matt came with his parents and elder brother, Michael, who was born in Wisconsin, October 19, 1866, to Mower county nearly forty years ago, and has since carried on general farming in Marshall township, he and his brother Michael, more commonly called Mike, now owning a fertile tract of 460 acres, largely under cultivation and all in the highest stage of development. Matt and Michael Flemming are both members of the United Workmen, and are both independent voters, casting their ballots intelligently after carefully and thoughtfully considering the candidates and issues of each campaign. The subject of this sketch married Clara Albright, who has proved an able and sympathetic helpmeet. This union has been blessed with three children. Edna, a bright girl of 11, attends school, while Edith and Ethel, the twins born May 19, 1909, are the joy of the household.

Matt Flemming, Sr., a Wisconsin pioneer, was born in Germany, March 2, 1839, his parents being sturdy and respected natives of the Fatherland. He came to Wisconsin before the war, broke land, endured the hardships incident to pioneer life, and assisted in the development of that state. Some forty years ago he brought his family to Mower county, and purchased a tract of land in Marshall township, where he farmed until the time of his lamented death, December 9, 1907. His wife followed him to her last resting place February 8, 1908, and both are buried at Rose Creek in St. Peter's cemetery.

John J. Gilbertson was born on a farm near LaCrosse, Wis., in 1855. When a young man he was employed for a number of years as a clerk in the large wholesale dry goods house of Mons Anderson in LaCrosse. He then entered the general store business for himself at Grand Meadow, Minn., at the same time editing the Grand Meadow Record, in partnership with a Mr. Jurgens. After remaining at Grand Meadow for ten years, he came to Austin, Minn., and in partnership with George Edgerton, engaged in the machine business, selling threshing machines, buggies, cutters and general farm machinery, in which business he remained to the time of his death, which occurred June 9, 1892. Mr. Gilbertson was married in 1878 at Grand Meadow, Minn., to Martha Marian Hestad, and to this union were born six children: Elvira S., Walter L., Frances M., Lilian F., Lucile H. and Esther M. Walter L. married Emily Rieckhoff and they have one child, John. Frances M. married William Masteller and they have two children, Marian and William. Mrs. John Gilbertson was born

April 14, 1861, at Stavenger, Norway, and came to LaCrosse, Wis., with her parents in 1871, where she lived to the time of her marriage. Benjamin Uleland Hestad and Ellen, his wife, parents of Mrs. John Gilbertson, were both natives of Norway, where the wife inherited a large estate and where the husband held a state office. Mr. Hestad came to America shortly before the Civil war and fought in the union army two years. Being called home, he procured a leave of absence and then furnished a substitute to finish his enlistment in his place. On his return to Norway he managed his wife's large estate near Christiania, the estate containing many acres and being occupied by many tenants. After remaining there some years he sold the estate and again came to America, locating in LaCrosse, Wis., where he engaged in the real estate business. Later he went to South Dakota and was one of the founders of Bryant, in that state, where he built several stores and assisted in establishing a bank. He also purchased 1,800 acres of land in that vicinity near Lake Norden, which lake he named. Benjamin Uleland Hestad and his wife were the parents of nine children: Martha Marian, Guy, Theodore, Michael, Edward, Augustus, John, Benjamin and Emma Josephine. Mr. Hestad died at Bryant, S. D., in 1904, and his widow still resides there. Mr. Hestad was the nephew of the statesman Uleland, who figured prominently in Norwegian politics and served his country in that capacity for forty years. It is interesting to note in this connection that the greatgrandfather of Mrs. John Gilbertson was General Gunder Hestad, one of the distinguished generals during the war between Norway and Sweden. He was greatly honored by his countrymen and lived to the great age of 103 years. Mrs. Gilbertson well remembers him, as when she was a child he frequently told her stories of the battles in which he had taken part.

John Guiney is one of the live, progressive farmers of Red Rock township, and has held various positions of public and private trust and honor, his interest in progress and education being shown by his continuous service of fifteen years on the school board of his district. He was born in McHenry county, Illinois, December 15, 1856, son of Daniel and Hanna (Fitzgerald) Guiney. After a boyhood spent on his father's farm, he reached the age of 25 years, and purchased a place of his own, since which time he has been successfully engaged in farming. October 21, 1890, he married Mary Keating, daughter of Daniel and Hanna (Casey) Keating, and seven children have been born: Julia A., Mary A., Katherine E., Loretta E., Angela M., Daniel E., and Francis G., the latter named being dead.

W. V. Gilmore, of Dexter, formerly principal of the village school, and now rural mail carrier, was born in Mabel, Fillmore

county, June 10, 1881, son of A. H. and Catherine (Lamb) Gilmore. He received his earlier education in the common schools and graduated from the high school at Mabel, in Fillmore county. He took courses at Hamline University two years, and then started teaching in Fillmore county. After a year at Canton, he came to Dexter in 1907, and took charge of the schools here for two years. Then he passed the necessary examinations and became rural carrier on Route 1 from the Dexter postoffice. He is an independent voter, belongs to the Masonic order and to the M. W. A., and attends the Methodist church. He was married August 22, 1906, to Marian Stroud, daughter of James K. and Carrie (Bacon) Stroud, early pioneers of Fillmore county, now living in retirement in Mabel, in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore have two children: Daryl L., born in Fair Oak, Cal., July 10, 1907, and Eleanor Kathryn, born February 13, 1910, in Dexter. A. H. Gilmore and Catherine Lamb, his wife, after many years spent in Minnesota, are now living in Fair Oak, Cal. They have three children: Walter V.; Ralph, a student at the Leland-Stanford University in California, and Ella, one of the head teachers in the reform school at Ione, Cal. James K. Stroud and Carrie Bacon, his wife, after many years spent as farmers in Fillmore county, have now moved to Mabel, not far from their old farm, and are there spending their days in retirement. They had seven children: Elmer R., of Mabel, Minn., a merchant; Leonard B., a farmer in Atwater, Minn.; Lulu M., wife of A. A. Miner, of Mabel; Herbert N., cashier of the First National Bank, at Wimbledon, N. D.; Roy, a farmer near Mabel; Arthur D., a Methodist clergyman in Boston, and Marian, now wife of W. V. Gilmore, of Dexter.

George W. Grimshaw, now deceased, was a fine type of the early Minnesota pioneer. He was a prominent citizen of both Mower and Steele county, took a fervent interest in the agricultural development of this part of the state, and was a staunch advocate of everything that tended toward the betterment and progress of humanity. He was born in Oneida county, New York, January 10, 1833, and at three years of age was taken by his parents to Jefferson county, New York, where he received his education in the district schools and in the academy there. He came west in 1856, located in Aurora township, Steele county, and then seven years later took up his residence in Lansing township, Mower county, where he engaged in farming until 1893, when he came to Austin, built a home at 610 West Winona street, and there lived until his death, April 16, 1904. Mr. Grimshaw served as town clerk of Aurora township, Steele county, and clerk and chairman of Lansing county, in Mower county. He was instrumental in organizing the Mower County Agricultural Society.

which is still in existence. He was a member of the Methodist church for over forty years, being a steward and serving on the board of trustees for many years. He was married August 16, 1858, at Loraine, Jefferson county, New York, to Larena Hanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hanson, and this union was blessed with four children: Adelbert, who died at five years; Addie, his twin, who died at six weeks; Ida May, now Mrs. J. E. White, of St. Paul, and Rose E., now Mrs. C. L. Rice, of Austin. The Cedar River Grange, at Ramsey, Minn., was instrumental in organizing the Mower County Fair, and Mr. G. W. Grimshaw was president of the first Mower County Fair held in Austin and served several years in succession.

J. B. Graves, a respected citizen of Brownsdale, and at one time county commissioner of Mower county, was born May 21, 1829, in Fowler, St. Lawrence county, New York, son of Gaylord and Nancy (Tuckerman) Graves. In 1838 the entire family came west to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where the father had two years previous made a claim. J. B. spent his early life in Walworth county, and later went to Fox River, where, being a carpenter by trade, he built a number of houses. In the spring of 1861 he came to Brownsdale, and continued at his trade in addition to carrying on general farming. Some years ago he became treasurer of the creamery at Brownsdale. In fraternal affiliations he is a Mason, having been raised to that dignity at Austin, but being now a member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, of Brownsdale. He married Margaret Clark, daughter of Owen and Mary (Condon) Clark, born at Utica, New York, September 20, 1835, and they had four children. Three are dead: Edwin, Mary and Howard. Alice is the wife of W. H. Lawrence.

A. George, the popular station agent for the C., M. & St. P., at Lyle, has occupied his present position for seven years. Since coming to the village he has actively identified himself with public affairs, is president of the Lyle Commercial Club, is keeper of records and seals of the Knights of Pythias, and a hard worker in the I. O. O. F. When at Otranto he was president of the school board of that place. He was born in Hartford, Wis., November 2, 1865, son of A. and Verona (Weistonner) George, natives of Switzerland. They came to America about 1857, and located in Hartford, Wis., where the senior George engaged in contracting and building. In 1880 they removed to Milford, Iowa, and retired. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin and Iowa. After leaving school, he entered the employ of the C., M. & St. P. as station agent at Milford, remaining there six months. Then he was given charge of the station at Otranto, Iowa, and there remained fifteen years. His residence in Lyle dates from April 13, 1903. Mr. George was

married January 1, 1887, to Anna Ewertson, of Otranto, and to this union has been born one son, Harry, March 4, 1893, a graduate of the Lyle high school. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran church.

Sam D. Goetsch, a successful land agent, is one of the substantial citizens of Dexter, and has built up a large business in real estate there, dealing also in all kinds of fire and cyclone insurance. He was born in Sheboygan county, Wisconsin, January 14, 1879, son of Fred and Mary (Schesson) Goetsch. He was brought to Minnesota by his mother when thirteen years of age, and received his early education in the vicinity of Waltham township, this county, also starting in life as a farmer in the same vicinity. At eighteen years of age he started clerking in a store in Dexter, and also engaged in business for himself later, having stores at Dexter. In the spring of 1902 he started his present business, and has been very successful. He votes the Republican ticket, but has never cared to seek or accept public office. Mr. Goetsch was married in March, 1902, to Hanna Bush, and four children have blessed this union: Ruby, Pearl, David and Jesse. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran church. Fred Goetsch was born in Wisconsin, of German parentage, and married Mary Schesson, living in Bayfield county, Wisconsin. There were six children in the family. William lives in Wisconsin. Joseph lives in Waltham township. Otto lives in Dexter township. Minnie is now Mrs. John Holtz, of Red Rock. John lives in Waltham township. Sam D. is a real estate agent at Dexter. Two other children, Frank and Rose, died when young.

Clarence G. Gillam, a popular young dentist of Austin, was born in Frankfort, Spink county, South Dakota, February 27, 1884, attended the public schools of Windom, Minn., and graduated from the Windom high school in 1902. Then he entered the University of Minnesota, and after graduating from the dental department of that institution, in 1905, took up the practice of dentistry in Mountain Lake, Cottonwood county, Minnesota, remaining there until December, 1907, when he came to Austin, and associated himself with Dr. J. W. Phillips. In 1909 he bought out his partner, and has since conducted the business alone, having a suite of finely equipped offices at 231 North Main street. Dr. Gillam is an insurgent Republican. He has affiliated himself with the state and county dental associations, and is a well-liked member of the Austin Commercial Club and the Austin Tennis Club. He is also a Master Mason. William S. and Ida May (Loomis) Gillam, parents of Dr. Clarence G. Gillam, were natives respectively of Wisconsin and Minnesota. They went to South Dakota in 1881, and took a claim in Spink county, on which they lived until 1889, when they moved to Windom, Cottonwood

county, Minnesota, where W. S. engaged in grist milling until 1904, when he engaged in the nursery business at Redfield, S. D., where he and his wife now reside.

Daniel Guiney, a pioneer of Red Rock township, was born in County Cork, Ireland, and there married Hanna Fitzgerald, a native of the same county. In 1853 he came to America with his brothers, and after a short stay in Boston, Mass., located in Illinois. In 1856 he came to Red Rock township, pre-empted a quarter section, erected a log cabin and carried on farming until the time of his death, June 30, 1900. He left twelve children: John, Timothy, Daniel, Patrick, Frank, Mary, Ellen, Anna, Julia, Lillie and Edward J. Ellen is the wife of George Murphy. Julia is a sister in the Dominican order of nuns. James died in infancy.

Edward J. Guiney is a native of this county, born in Red Rock township, where he still resides, February 18, 1869, son of Daniel and Hanna (Fitzgerald) Guiney. Until recently Mr. Guiney has spent his entire life as a resident of the old homestead. He attended the schools of District 40, in Windom township, and was reared to agricultural pursuits. Since his father's death he and his brothers have managed the home place, which is one of the largest farms in the township. Edward J. Guiney is a respected citizen of the township and is a popular member of the Knights of Columbus. He and the other members of the family attend the Catholic church at Austin.

Gordon C. Adams, of Austin, now deceased, former farmer and business man, was born in the town of Orwell, Vt., in 1823, and removed with his parents to Benson, Rutland county, where he was engaged in farming and school teaching. In 1850 he went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and engaged in the retail lumber trade, remaining several years, after which he was engaged with the New York & Brooklyn Sawmill and Lumber Company for ten years, being superintendent and treasurer of the company seven years of that time. For the succeeding fourteen years he was with the South Brooklyn Sawmill Company, being superintendent, secretary and treasurer nearly that entire time. During this time Mr. Adams visited Mower county, and was so pleased with the vicinity that in 1879 he purchased a farm of 160 acres from S. G. Woodard. Mr. Adams expended a considerable amount of money in improving his place and his barns, and his equipment and facilities for handling and housing crops and live stock was among the best in the township. In his latter years Mr. Adams gave up farming, and for a time engaged in the fuel business in Austin. He died in Austin, February 17, 1901. G. C. Adams married for his first wife Harriet M. Watson. They were married in Vermont, and she died in the city of Brooklyn, leaving no children. His second wife was Ella M. Squires, also of Vermont, who died nine years after her

marriage, leaving two children, Hattie M., who died at the age of 29, and Alfred, who died at the age of three. Subsequently Mr. Adams married Mattie Allen, born in Whitehall, Ill., daughter of Jesse and Mary B. Allen. Her early life was spent in Illinois, and she was married to Gordon C. Adams, at the age of 37 years. Mrs. Adams has four brothers living in Illinois: Henry F., William A., Lewis and Albert. Two are dead: Jesse L. and Jonathan. Henry F. married Mrs. Sarah Pankey and they have two children: Mattie and Jesse. William A. married Anna Corn, and their children are Leda, Kenneth and William. Lewis married Lillian Peet, and they have four children: Bertha, now Mrs. Burns; Ethel; Mabel, now Mrs. Fred Ford, and Lura. Albert married Mattie Stublefield, and they have one child, Edith, now Mrs. Clarence Grimmett. Jesse L. left three children: Minnie, now Mrs. Cyrus Curtis; Mary, widow of William Reily, and Frank Q., who is married and has several children. Jonathan married Etta King and had three children, Stella, who died at the age of 28 years, and Herman and Roseoe. The two latter are prosperous young men, the former being 30 years of age and the latter 21. These young men are engaged in the lumber business in Wisconsin.

Robert A. Barnitz, one of the rising young dentists of Austin, has a well equipped office at 233 North Main street, and enjoys the confidence of a large clientele, his skillful work being its own highest recommendation. Dr. Barnitz was born in Austin township, February 4, 1882, son of Charles and Josephine (Baudler) Barnitz, and attended the graded schools of his neighborhood, graduating from the Austin high school in 1902. He then worked at home two years and at the end of that period entered the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, graduating June 1, 1907. Two weeks later, in July, he opened an office in Austin, which he has since successfully conducted. Dr. Barnitz is a member of the Masonic order, and while at college was admitted to the fellowship of the Delta Sigma Delta. He is an independent voter.

Charles Barnitz, a market gardener, living in Austin township, was born in Gratz, Austria, and came to America in 1869, arriving in Mower county two years later. Subsequently he spent three years in what was then Washington territory on a claim. He then came back to Austin, where he took up the work which he has since continued. His wife, whose maiden name was Josephine Baudler, was a native of Austin township.

Alvah E. Beadell, former merchant, now a Lansing farmer, was born at Helena, Wis., in 1862, descended from an old Wisconsin family. His father, Luther Beadell, was a blacksmith and farmer, while his grandfather, Alvah Culver, was a merchant and Mississippi steamboat owner, being one of the first men to run a

line of steamboats on the Wisconsin river. His mother, Abbie Culver, was a member of the Wisconsin pioneer family of that name. The subject of this sketch passed his early life on a farm in Wisconsin, and in 1891 came to Lansing village, entering the employ of Harvey McIntyre, as a clerk. He afterward conducted a hardware store of his own in the same village for nine years. Since that time he has devoted his life entirely to farming. He is one of the progressive men of Lansing, interested especially in the town government, having served as treasurer of Lansing township for sixteen years. He belongs to the Masons and the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Beadell was married, some years ago, to Bessie Soule, daughter of Rensselaer Soule and Cornelia Hawley, his wife, for many years well known residents of Lansing. The subject of this sketch is the father of six children: Mary A., Lester, Edwin, Clarence, Don and Walter.

William Baudler, a sturdy old pioneer of Mower county, was born in Germany, April 5, 1834. After receiving a good education in the public schools of his native land, he learned the baker's trade, followed this line in Germany and after his emigration to America in 1853. Arriving in this country, he first located in the state of New York, thence removing to Mississippi, and from there to New Orleans and then to St. Louis, all the time plying his vocation of baker. May 8, 1855, he came to Austin, Minn., and acquired 160 acres of wild land bordering on the city limits. This tract he immediately commenced working into a productive farm, clearing and improving it from year to year, and adding a home, buildings and new machinery in keeping with the times. In spite of his 77 years, he still takes an active interest in the management of the farm, which he has developed out of the wilderness. In political matters he votes for what he believes conducive to the best welfare of the community, being uninfluenced by party. July 5, 1876, he was united in marriage with Barbara Faber, by whom he has four children: Herman, who is engaged in farming in Lansing township; Carl and Otto, comprising the firm of Baudler Brothers, attorneys of Austin, and Alvin, living at home.

Baudler Brothers, one of the leading law firms of Austin, is composed of two live and energetic attorneys, Carl and Otto Baudler. They are both natives of this county, Carl being born March 6, 1879, and Otto, December 16, 1881. Their education was largely received in the public schools of Austin, Carl being graduated from the local high school in 1899, and Otto receiving his diploma two years later from the same institution. In 1901 Carl entered the law department of the state university, receiving his degree in 1904. Otto commenced the same course the year his

brother graduated, and was admitted to the bar in 1907. The following year the brothers opened offices in Austin and have since met with much success in the practice of their profession, being thoroughly conversant with all branches of law. The Democratic party claims their allegiance. At the November election, 1910, Otto was elected county attorney by the largest majority ever given a candidate in this county at a general election, notwithstanding the fact that the Democratic party is greatly in the minority. He is the youngest county official in Mower county, and one of the youngest in the state. The brothers are loyal members of the Austin Commercial Club. Their home is located at 1206 North Kenwood. William and Barbara (Faber) Baudler, parents of our subjects, are among the pioneers of this county, now residing on their farm in section thirty-four, Lansing township. Their sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

George W. Benton was born in Utica, N. Y., February 16, 1832. His father, Royal Benton, was a native of Connecticut, and was a merchant in Utica at the time George W. was born. The family migrated to Ohio, and settled in the town of Vienna, where the father opened a tailor shop, and spent the remainder of his days. The family remained at Vienna, and when George W. was 16 years of age he started with a team to Logan county, and worked on a railroad one season. Then he went to Bellefontaine and engaged in teaming. He was married there in 1852 to Caroline J. Royer, after which he rented a small place and commenced burning lime and selling building stone. After a year or so, he began buying and selling horses, taking them to Galena and Kentucky. In 1854 he made his first trip to Minnesota, engaging his time in buying a drove of horses which he sold in St. Paul. He first visited Mower county in December, 1854, and he and his family spent the winter here with his brother, Elon, 1856, on section seven, town of Windom. He teamed for a while and in 1857 claimed the southwest quarter of section nine. The following winter he built a log house, and in the spring of 1858 moved into it. With true pioneer zeal he started in farming, and in 1883 he had increased his land to 720 acres. He had also erected a fine house and outbuildings. Mr. Benton's wife died in October, 1880, leaving four children: Royal, Winfield, Charles and Alfred. In November, 1881, Mr. Benton married Sarah C., daughter of Barnabus and Maria (Fitch) Johnson and widow of George Bennett. Two children have been born to this union: Ormanzo J. Benton, who is engaged in the boot and shoe business in Austin, and Herbert W., who clerks in Fargo, N. D. Mr. Bennett, Mrs. Benton's first husband, was born in Schatigee, N. Y., and died at Mona, Iowa, in 1881, leaving one child, George A. George W. Benton died in April, 1902, as the result of an accident occasioned

by his team of young horses running away. He was greatly esteemed and his demise caused a widefelt sorrow.

Ole Benson was born in Hemsedal, Norway, August 14, 1822, and in 1841 was married to Margaret Throm. Four children were born to them, of whom two are living: Hans, of Udolpho township, and Andrew, of Blooming Prairie. The dead are Peder and Ben. He came to America in 1853 and settled at St. Ansgar, Iowa. In 1864 he moved to Minnesota, where he settled on a farm in Udolpho township, where his wife died in September, 1870. Then he made his home with his son, Andrew. He died June 19, 1910.

Hans Benson, a successful Udolpho farmer, was born in Norway, December 14, 1849, son of Ole and Marget (Throm) Benson, who brought him to America in 1853, and after eleven years in Iowa moved to Udolpho township, where they purchased the Teller farm. On this place Hans grew to manhood and then purchased the Hasmer place of 159 acres, on which he still lives. Mr. Benson served on the school board for several years, and he had the members of his family attend the Lutheran church. He married Ida Christianson, and in the family are the following children: Florence, Ole, Selmer, Cora. The father of Hans Benson died June 19, 1910, at the age of nearly 88, and his mother died in 1870.

Herbert W. Boody, chief engineer for the Austin Electric Light and Power Plant and an expert in his line, was born in Portland, Me., July 15, 1872. His education was acquired in the public schools of Portland and Minneapolis, after which he entered the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, working his way up from call boy to locomotive fireman, remaining eight years in the latter capacity. He then, in April of 1898, engaged as engineer for the old waterworks plant of Austin, proving so entirely satisfactory that on July 4, 1900, at the time when the water works and light plant were combined under one head, he was made operating engineer. In this capacity he continued until December 12, 1908, when he was given his present position as chief engineer of the plant. His political convictions are Republican, and he has officiated as constable of the third ward two years. He is a Master Mason, a Modern Woodman of America, and is associated with the C. of H. and the F. O. E. October 4, 1894, at Austin, he was married to Caroline M. Fischer, a native of this county, born at Vareo, February 15, 1877. This union has been blessed with two children: Marguerite T. and Leonard H. The family reside at 110 Division street. They worship at the Episcopal church. Leonard G. Boody, father of our subject, is a machinist of unusual ability, holding many responsible positions with different railroad companies in his younger days. He was a native of Maine, following his trade as a machinist in this state

until 1882, when he came west to Minneapolis, first being employed by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and later by the Northern Pacific railroad. In 1883 he brought his family to Minneapolis, and entered the machine shops of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, being connected with this company until 1891, when he took charge of the shops of the Great Northern, as foreman, at Great Falls, Mont. Resigning in 1900, he has since lived retired at Tacoma, Wash. His wife, nee Margaret A. Flemming, died January 13, 1895.

Wilson Beach, a rugged old pioneer of Mower county, was born in Fulton township, Schoharie county, New York, May 17, 1836. The public schools of Albany county, New York, afforded him his education, after which he engaged in farming in that county until 1856, when he took the westward trail for Minnesota, pre-empting a quarter section of wild land in section 26, Lyle township, Mower county. With the rude tools and implements of those early days he cleared and improved his land, valiantly overcoming the obstacles and enduring the privations inseparable from the life of a pioneer. Together with his father and brother he purchased 280 acres more in sections 36 and 37, Lyle township. Mr. Beach made other additions until he was the sole owner of about 400 acres, all in Lyle township, on which he successfully followed general farming until poor health compelled his retirement in 1880, removing to Austin the same year. Five years later he operated a feed store for a time, but since then he has not been actively engaged in business, now living retired at 209 West Maple street. His political convictions are Republican, and while in Lyle he served as town treasurer and supervisor, and was alderman from the first ward of Austin for a term since his removal to this city. His fraternal affiliations are with the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America. March 18, 1869, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Sabin, who died November 17, 1894. He was married a second time, June 18, 1898, to Henrietta Hazard. Mr. and Mrs. Beach are loyal attendants of the Baptist church.

Phillip H. Best, market gardener and poultryman, of Austin, was born in Germany, October 25, 1858, son of John and Margaret (Schiller) Best, who brought their family to America in 1866, locating in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and engaging in farming until John Best's death, in 1908. The mother, Mrs. Margaret Best, is still living at the good old age of 87 years. Phillip H. received his education in Germany and Wisconsin, then took up farming with his parents. He was married, January 1, 1879, to Helen Nixon, daughter of William and Frances Nixon. This union has resulted in twelve children, all of whom are living: Mabel, now Mrs. Harry Rogers, residing on a farm in North

Dakota; Alice, living in Wisconsin; Margaret, wife of John A. Stromer; Cora, wife of Levi Brimacomb, both of Austin; Emma, Nellie, Zella, Katherine, Ray, Jay, Florence and Milo. In 1888 he moved from Wisconsin to Mower county, Lyle township, where he engaged in farming. In 1903 he came to Austin, and in 1908 purchased twenty acres on South River street, where he engaged in garden and market farming. Aside from raising bees and poultry, his special pride are his White Wyandottes, White Plymouth Rocks and White Pekin ducks. Mr. Best is a Republican, is a member of the Owls, also of the M. W. A. Mrs. Helen Best was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, March 31, 1860. Her father, Wm. Nixon, was born in England in 1831. He came to America in 1849 and located in Wisconsin. In 1856 he was married to Frances Smart, who died in 1864, leaving him with three small children, and in 1869 he was again married to Mary Plum. Six children were born to them. Five children are living. While Mr. Nixon still lived in England he ran an engine in the coal mines. In this county he was one of the first engineers on the C., M. & St. P. railroad. He also operated the first steam threshing machine in his part of the state of Wisconsin, this being in 1858, when a machine had been invented to thresh the grain by steam, but when the machine itself had to be drawn by oxen. In 1888 he came to Carpenter, where he bought a farm of 200 acres. He still kept up the business of threshing until 1891. His death came in 1908.

Sven Christenson was born in Nas Hallingdal, Norway, in 1847, and passed away in Lansing township, this county, April 23, 1907, having led a useful life filled with hard labor and worthy accomplishment. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in his native country, and when 22 years of age came to America to seek his fortune, making his way to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he stayed one year; then came to Lansing township, where he worked on various farms about four years before purchasing land in section 5. This land he improved, built a good house and comfortable outbuildings, and here made his home until his lamented death. He married Carrie, daughter of Knut Braaben, and to this union were born five children: Inga, Mary, Carl, Christene and Nels. Inga is the wife of Hans Benson, and they have four children: Florence O., Ole, Selmer and Cora. Mary married Halvor Medgaarden, and they have one son, Clarence. Carl, Christene and Nels live at home with their mother, and Carl and Nels manage the home farm, which consists of 200 acres, all in a fine stage of cultivation. Mrs. Christenson is a good woman, known for her interest in church work. She was born in Norway, and with much courage came to this country alone to seek her fortune in 1872. The family is highly regarded in the community.

Frank M. Callinan, passenger conductor for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, trusted by the company and well liked by his associates, was born in Prairie du Chien, Wis., January 5, 1866. His early education was received in the public schools of Prairie du Chien, this being supplemented with a course in the Sacred Heart College of his home town. He then learned telegraphy and entered the service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad at Minnesota Lake, being connected with the company ever since. In 1888 he came to Austin, and was made freight conductor. In 1903 he was given charge of a train in the passenger service, his run now being on the Iowa & Minnesota division. His political convictions are those of the Democratic party, but the nature of his work has prevented him from holding office. He is fraternally identified with the Order of Railway Conductors, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus, in which latter he is now serving as grand knight. September 8, 1898, he was married to Mary Meany, by whom he has three children: Ellen F., born November 3, 1900, at Minneapolis; John G., born July 27, 1904, at Austin; and Anna R., who was born May 27, 1910, at Austin. The religious faith of the family is that of the Catholic church. Mr. Callinan comes of a family of railroad men, his father, John G., commencing with the same company as his son, and gradually earning his promotion to the position of passenger conductor, serving in Wisconsin until 1888, when he was transferred to South Dakota, still retaining his position. He died while in the employ of the company, March 21, 1899. His wife had previously died, March 8, 1892. Her maiden name was Ellen Gilmartin. William and Katherine (O'Malley) Meany, parents of Mrs. Frank M. Callinan, were pioneers of this county, the O'Malleys locating in 1856, and William Meany, in Windom township, in 1868. William Meany was a hard working industrious farmer and died on the farm, January 30, 1895. The mother is still living on the old homestead.

W. E. Cornelius was born in Winona county, Minnesota, and came to Freeborn county in 1896. In 1908 he moved to Mower county and was married that year to Mrs. Thea Ulland, the daughter of Gilbert Thompson, an early settler of Freeborn county. By her first husband, whom she married in 1898, Mrs. Cornelius has two children: Albertina T. and Genelia S. To her and W. E. Cornelius has been born one daughter, Beatrite L. The Cornelius farm is pleasantly situated in Udolpho township, and the comfortable residence faces the road which divides the counties of Mower and Freeborn.

Gilbert Thompson, one of the old settlers of Freeborn county, lives in Newry, but owns considerable land in Lansing township,

this county. He was born in Norway in 1844, came to America in 1868, to Grand Meadow in 1870 and to Neury township in 1871. Woods then covered that vicinity, and the fields were in five-acre lots. He worked his fields with a yoke of oxen and hauled his grain for many miles with them. There were no mowers or binders in that part of the country at that time, and Mr. Thompson had to cut his grain by hand, rake it together, and tie it while on the ground. He married Thora Scarabraaten, who has proved an able helpmeet.

William Preston Dennis, now living in Dodge county, where he has been treasurer of school district 64 for nine years, was a resident of Mower county for nearly a quarter of a century, and during that time was actively identified with its agricultural development. He was born in Clayton county, Iowa, June 1, 1858, son of Isaac and Mary (Brookskier) Dennis, natives of Kentucky, who brought their son, William Preston, to Mower county when he was eleven years of age. Here he attained to the years of manhood and followed agricultural pursuits. Eight years of his life have been spent in South Dakota, where he and his family went through the trials and hardships of pioneer life. He there served the county wherein he resided two years as sheriff. Becoming tired of frontier life, he moved back to Minnesota, and has since lived on his present farm, being a very prosperous farmer. Mr. Dennis is an independent voter and affiliates with no church. He is the owner of 160 acres of land with substantial buildings and sixty head of fine stock. Mr. Dennis is a man of substance and standing in the community. He married Jennette M. Steele, daughter of George and Jennette (Marshall) Steele, and they are the parents of seven children: Floy I., Harvey J., William Roy, Ida May, Nellie Etta, Harrison D. and Charles R. Floy I. is the wife of William Driscoll, and they have three children. Ida is the wife of John Koehn, and they have two children. Nellie is the wife of Ingval Anderson. Mr. Dennis is well regarded in the community wherein he makes his home.

Sylvester A. Dennis, a pioneer of Mower county who arrived in 1857, was born February 19, 1816, near Columbus, Ohio, and was taken by his parents to Vermilion county, Indiana, when fifteen years of age. When about twenty years of age, he married Catherine Mathews, who was born in 1818 in Ohio. In 1849 Sylvester A. took his family to Allamakee county, Iowa, and there his wife died in December, 1850, leaving six children, after which in 1852 he married Rebecca Arnold, who also bore him six children. In May, 1857, Mr. Dennis came to Mower county, and for eight years lived in Red Rock township. Eight years later he traded farms, and secured a place in section 19, Waltham town-

ship, to which farm he moved, and there continued to live until his death, December 17, 1867.

Isaac Dennis, a retired farmer now living in Lansing village, was born June 7, 1838, in Vermilion county, Indiana, son of Sylvester A. and Catherine (Mathews) Dennis. He was taken by his parents to Allamakee county, Iowa, in 1849, and came to Mower county in 1856 with five yoke of oxen to locate a claim for his father. Crossing the prairie from Calmar, Iowa, to Brownsdale, Minn., he found no wood to make a fire, and on the second day he took a box top from the wagon and split it up to make a fire to cook dinner. He broke the first prairie ever broken in Red Rock township. In 1869 he brought his family to Red Rock and here he has since continued to reside. He was educated in the common schools, all his school hours being spent in an old log schoolhouse. He farmed on his father's farm for several years, and later purchased the same for his own. He is now practically retired from active work. By his first wife, Mary J. Brookskier, a native of Kentucky, who died December 30, 1881, Mr. Dennis has thirteen children, of whom nine, five sons and four daughters, are living. The present Mrs. Dennis was Eliza Hart, daughter of Peter and Ann (Dowden) Hart, whom he married May 29, 1884.

E. E. Dennis conducts agricultural operations on a well-arranged, well-kept farm of eighty acres in Udolpho township, and is one of the substantial men of the vicinity, his interest in education being shown by the fact that he had served on the school board of his district for over eleven years. He was born in Clayton county, Iowa, February 9, 1862, son of Isaac and Mary (Brookskier) Dennis, natives respectively of Indiana and Kentucky. The subject of this sketch came to Mower county with his parents at the age of seven years, and was reared on the home farm, receiving such education as the schools of his neighborhood afforded. When he grew to manhood, he left home and worked out for a time before purchasing his present farm. When a youth, Mr. Dennis was for three successive years herdboy in Udolpho. In this connection he had many interesting experiences, and the first year had the excitement of killing fifty-two rattle snakes. Land at that time could be purchased for from \$3 to \$6 per acre. A short time after leaving home, E. E. Dennis was married, March 25, 1885, to Alice Dillie, daughter of Arrora and Catherine Dillie, and they are the parents of four children: Walter P., Pearl, Ernest and Glenn. Walter P. was married April 9, 1907, to Lorreta Driscoll, one of Mower county's best teachers. Pearl married Robert Ward, May 17, 1908, and they have one child, Ruth.

Peter P. Dock, a retired farmer of Lyle village, is one of the estimable citizens of the county, who has made the most of the

opportunities presented in this country. With little encouragement, and no help but his own energy, he has worked his way up, and has overcome difficulties and hardships that would have discouraged many. He was born in Norway, March 25, 1838, son of Peter Thompson and Caroline Peterson, his good wife. The father died in the old country when Peter was a small boy, and Peter had to help his mother in every way he could. He remained in Norway until 1861, when with his mother and his brother, Knute P., he sailed for America. His mother and brother settled in Blooming Prairie township, where the former took a homestead of 160 acres, and remained until her death. The brother, Knute P., remained on the homestead until his death, in the spring of 1910. After coming to America, Peter P. first worked out on a farm for two years in Iowa, earning little but his board. After this he took a homestead in Blooming Prairie township, Steele county, where he remained for four years. Times were hard, money was scarce and provisions hard to obtain, and often Mr. Dock had to do without the bare necessities. He sold his claim and moved to Mitchell county, Iowa, where he purchased 120 acres of land, which he broke, tilled and developed, erecting a fine home and other buildings, and later adding another 120 acres, making 240 acres in all, it being one of the finest places in his township. There he lived, prospered and carried on general farming until 1903, when he sold the farm and moved to Otranto township, Mitchell county, where he purchased a 160-acre farm. There he lived until March, 1910, when he rented his farm and purchased his present home in the village of Lyle. He has remodeled the buildings, and there in well deserved comfort he now lives a retired life. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church. Mr. Dock was married in August, 1865, to Susan Peterson, a native of Norway. To this union was born seven children: Peter P., Jr., of Hawley, Minn.; Sevar, of Burvick, N. D.; Theodore, of Sauk Center, Minn.; Oliver, of Lyle; Caroline, deceased; Rosa, now wife of Harry Farley, station agent for the Illinois Central, and Lena, who lives at home.

Clarence M. Emmons, a business man of Austin and manager of the Eclipse Lumber Yards, was born on his father's farm in Delaware county, New York, February 25, 1860. After receiving a district school education, he moved to Waverly, Iowa, clerking for two years, later being employed in a lumber yard at Sumner, Iowa, for a short time. In 1881 he went to Salem, S. D., operating a stage line from that city to Sioux Falls during the next six months; later engaging in the livery business at Salem, in which he remained but a short while. Returning to Sumner, Iowa, in 1893, he spent two years in a lumber yard. He then removed to Manly Junction, Iowa, where he conducted a restaurant for a

year, previous to his removal in November, 1897, to Austin, where he engaged in the ice business, remaining in this line two years. He then sold out and accepted his present position as manager for the Eclipse Lumber Company, in which capacity he has been very successful in building up and holding a large patronage. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Brick and Tile Company, of Austin. His political convictions are Republican, and he has served as alderman of the second ward two years. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the local commercial club number him among their active members. April 30, 1895, he married Julia Cummings, by whom he has two children: Alice, born at Sumner, Iowa, September 27, 1898, and Morton, born August 6, 1900. Mrs. Emmons passed away December 8, 1909. The family worships at the Methodist Episcopal church. The residence is at 108 South St. Paul street. Morton and Elizabeth (Michael) Emmons, parents of our subject, were natives of New York state, where the father followed farming until his death, which occurred in November of 1865. The mother passed away during the same month and year.

George W. Eastman, well known in Mower county, was born in Oconomowoc, Waukesha county, September 18, 1863. His education was acquired in the district schools of Mower county and in Darling's business college at Rochester, Minn., after which he taught school for six terms in Mower county. Mr. Eastman then engaged in farming in this county, but at present is practically retired from that line of work, devoting his attention to grain and stock buying, also having a fire insurance agency. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party. His fraternal associations are with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic order. In 1893 he was joined in marriage with Edith Carll, daughter of Freeman A. and Eliza E. Carll. They have three children: Inez M., Edna I. and Dorothy E. George W. Eastman is a son of Charles and Ann (Kearny) Eastman, the father a native of England and the mother of Brooklyn, N. Y., their marriage occurring in the latter place. In 1855 they joined the westward tide of emigration, the father finally taking a claim in Windom township, Mower county, in 1862. He brought his family onto the farm two years later. His decease occurred May 17, 1907. His mother died March 19, 1888.

L. M. Eggen, for the past fifteen years town clerk of Nevada, in which capacity he has given general satisfaction, is one of the substantial men of the county. His well kept farm of 160 acres lies partly in Nevada township, this county, and partly in Union township, Mitchell county, Iowa. Here he carries on general farming operations with much success, having been in possession of the place since 1893, when he purchased it from his father.

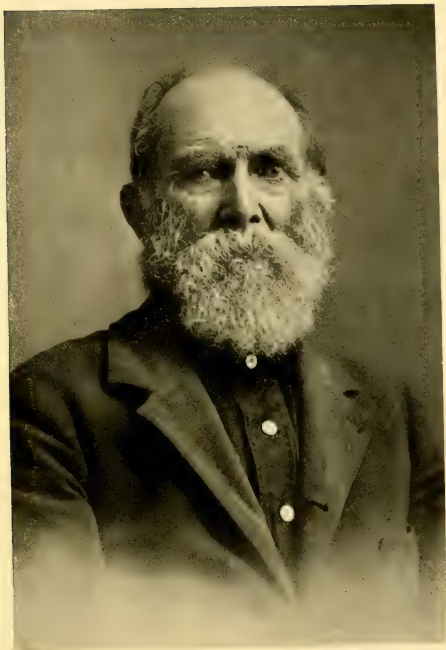
L. M. Eggen was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, January 14, 1871, son of Rev. J. Muller and Henrietta (Rossow) Eggen, and with them came to Mower county in 1882, settling on the farm he now occupies. Being thoroughly convinced of the evils of intemperance, Mr. Eggen votes the Prohibition ticket, and is an ardent worker in the cause of total abstinence. He and his family worship at the Lutheran church. By his marriage, June 1, 1893, to Libbie Larsen, daughter of Olie and Anna Larsen, he has three children: John, born February 6, 1895; Harriett, born January 24, 1898, and Walter, June 7, 1904. Ole Larsen, father of Mrs. Eggen, is dead, and Mrs. Larsen is now living in Brookings, S. D. Seven children were born to them: Nils lives in Brookings, S. D.; Louis lives in Tacoma, Wash.; Bennie is dead; Libbie is wife of L. M. Eggen; Bertha is in charge of the hospital at Volga, S. D.; Jennie married Dr. G. G. Eitel, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Clara is the wife of Dr. C. A. Anderson, of Rush City, Minn.

Rev. Johannes Mueller Eggen was born near Trondhjem, Norway, April 20, 1841. Until his confirmation he stayed at home, but then went to his uncle in the city of Tromso and accepted a position as clerk in his store, taking at the same time instruction in the grammar school with a view of entering the university. After spending two years in Tromso he studied at the university. From there he went to Bergen as instructor in languages. At this time he thought seriously of going on the stage, but the desire of giving his time and talents to a better cause became stronger and he finally entered the seminary with religious work in view. After studying theology for one year he established a high school at Trysil, and held the position of principal for a number of years. Then he accepted a call from the Evangelical Lutheran church in America and came here in the summer of 1865. He was, however, urged by leading men of the Augustana Synod to enter the theological seminary at Paxton, Ill., to perfect his theological education and enter the ministry. This he decided to do. He graduated in the summer of 1866 and was ordained the same year, accepting a call from the Lutheran congregations at Stoughton and Racine, Wis. He served these for five years, residing at Racine. In 1871 he moved to Luther Valley, Rock county, Wisconsin, where he labored until 1882, when he accepted a call from Six Miles Grove congregation in Adams, or Little Cedar congregation and Mona and Lyle congregation, all in Mower county. This call he served until 1905, when he resigned on account of poor health. Rev. Eggen held several official positions in the church. For nine years he was secretary of the conference, for two years vice president and in 1886 was elected president of that body. Rev. Eggen has also written several books. Among these may be mentioned: "Confirmation," "Engagement," "The Im-

portance of Missions," "The Sins of the Church" and "A Look at Our Times." In 1865 Rev. Eggen was married to Henrietta Rossow. This union was blessed with eight children, two of whom have died. The surviving are Lizzie, the wife of John O. Oas, teacher at Scandinavia, Wis.; Lawrence M. lives on the home place in Nevada township; Rena, the wife of A. M. Wilson, formerly a merchant of Lyle, Minn.; Laura, the wife of Rev. M. E. Waldeland, of St. Ansgar, Iowa; Emelie, matron of the Thomas hospital in Minneapolis; Gustave, who is with the Chicago Northwestern railway at Manitowoc, Wis. Mrs. Eggen died in 1900 and Rev. Eggen was married for the second time in 1903 to Mrs. Gunhild Thorson. Rev. Eggen and wife spent the greater part of the past four or five years in Alabama on account of the former's poor health. They now live with their son on the place he located upon when he first moved to this state.

John Fairbanks, justice of the peace and for many years a prominent and respected citizen of Mower county, was born at Royalton, Vt., March 24, 1840. His boyhood was passed on his father's farm, near Bethel, Vt., to which the family moved shortly after his birth. The district schools afforded him the education usual to those times, the outbreak of the Civil war calling him from his books. Enlisting in Co. F, 3rd Vermont Inf., May 10, 1861, he served with this company until May 3, 1863, being wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg and sent to an army hospital at Brattleboro, Vt., after his recovery being placed under detached service, from which he was honorably discharged January 27, 1864. Returning to his family, he spent three years in Vermont, migrating west in 1869 and settling on a farm near Windom, Minn., on which he remained, carrying on general farming, until 1879, when he removed to Austin, where he engaged as carpenter and joiner. Mr. Fairbanks is a progressive in politics and is serving his fifth year as justice of the peace. The local post of the Grand Army of the Republic counts him an active member. October 8, 1863, he was married to Marina M. Newman, by whom he has eight children: Maud, now Mrs. Barr; May, Mrs. Stimson, a widow; Susan, wife of Al. E. Peaslee; Mattie, married to Frank Brown; Esther, living at home; Charles, of Seattle; Luke, located in Los Angeles, and Lee, of Minneapolis. Lorenzo and Esther (Bowen) Fairbanks, parents of our subject, were natives of New England, the father being born in Barnard and the mother in Royalton, Vt.

Albert Galloway, now deceased, will long be remembered in the community for his public spirited generosity, and the interest he took in educational progress. He was born in Newburg, Orange county, New York, October 6, 1822. His early manhood was spent on the farm, and at the age of twenty-four he went



ALBERT GALLOWAY.

to Corning, Steuben county, in the same state, where he was engaged in the lumber business six years. Later he went to Port Burwell, in Canada, and lived there until 1856, when he came west, intending to locate in Minneapolis. On the way, however, he met friends, who induced him to go to Chatfield instead. He therefore traveled with them on foot, from Winona, and after reaching Chatfield proceeded on to Frankford, walking all the way. Mr. Galloway then rode to Austin, arriving in the fall. Here he preëmpted a claim in section 17, township 102, range 18, clerking that winter in the store of Hanchett & Sprague. He proved up his claim the following November, and about the same time (1857) formed a partnership with D. B. Johnson, Jr., in the mercantile business. For this store a building was erected from logs that he had sawed, the edifice standing east of the present site of the postoffice. After a year the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Galloway continuing the business alone until 1868. Previous to this he had purchased sixty acres of land in section 3, now included in the city limits of Austin, and here he lived, owning also 320 acres in section 24, Austin township, besides considerable other property. He was married in November, 1860, to Rosetta Carter, of Shefford county, Quebec, Canada, and to this union were born two children: William A. and Ellen R., the latter now being Mrs. C. W. Tyler. Mrs. Rosetta Galloway died January 1, 1865, and for his second wife, Mr. Galloway married, June 8, 1868, Amy M. Carter, widow of James Darrah, and daughter of John and Charlotte (Phelps) Carter, the former being a native of Vermont, and the latter of Canada. To Albert and Amy Galloway were born two children: Charles D. and John Elbert. Mrs. Galloway also has a daughter, Minnie Darrah, by her first marriage. Mr. Galloway died on October 6, 1907. He gave the land for the Southern Minnesota Normal college at Austin, and was deeply interested in it. He was also a charter member of the Masonic lodge at Austin, and at the time of his death was the last surviving charter member. William A. Galloway was married in 1883 to Rose Miller and they have three children: Ethel, Elmer and Ralph. Ellen Rose Galloway was married in 1888 to Winfield S. Stockman, and they have two children: Estelle M. and Amy G. Charles D. Galloway married Laura Slocum, daughter of Wesley Slocum, of Sibley, Iowa. The marriage took place January 1, 1897, and they made their home in Minneapolis until her death in May, 1902. Estelle M. Darrah, now Mrs. Charles B. Dyke, is the daughter of Mrs. Galloway by her first marriage. Mrs. Dyke has been quite prominent in educational matters. She was principal of the teachers' training school at St. Paul, has taught in the Normal school at Mankato, and has done institute work in California, in which state she

graduated from the Leland Stanford University. Mrs. Dyke is now sojourning in Seville, Spain.

John Elbert Galloway, the well-known Austin fruit grower, was born in Austin township, son of Albert and Amy Galloway, and grew to manhood on his father's farm, which he still conducts. Aside from carrying on general farming, he has over a thousand trees in his orchard, mostly apples. He is an enthusiast in the art of raising apples, and has been very successful. He married Myra Warren, daughter of N. W. Warren, and they have one son, Cedric E.

Nels K. Goodwin, now deceased, was a hard working man of honor and integrity, and his memory will long be respected in the community wherein he lived. He was born in Norway, June 18, 1848, and was still in his teens when in 1866 he left his native country for America, landing at Montreal, Canada, and going directly to Iowa, where he remained for a short time. In 1870 he came to Mower county and settled in the town of Adams, and engaged in farming. Two years later he came to Udolpho, purchased the east half of section 29 from Barnard & Cooper, and made many improvements on the place, tilling the ground, erecting buildings, acquiring machinery, setting out trees and raising some excellent crops. Mr. Goodwin died August 10, 1900. By his wife, Sarah Thompson, daughter of Knute Thompson, the subject of this sketch had nine children: Martha, Knute, Carl, Celia, Theodore, Julia, Nels, Clara and Selmer. Of these but two, Knute and Nels, are living. Mrs. Goodwin died in November, 1907, from the effects of burns accidentally received while burning dead leaves on the farm. Nels and Knute now manage the home farm, which consists of 320 acres. They also own another farm one mile west of the home place, which consists of 240 acres, which they rent out. They own in all 560 acres of good land. The brothers are well versed in modern agricultural methods, and their place is one of the model farms of the county, being well equipped with fine buildings and up-to-date machinery. Like their father before them, the Goodwin brothers attend the Red Oak Grove Lutheran church, and are well thought of in the community.

Moses D. Gue, now deceased, one of the pioneers of Fillmore county, just over the eastern line of Mower county, was born in New York state and there spent his early days, being married March 20, 1848, at Boonville, Oneida county, New York, to Maria Hurlbert, daughter of John Hurlbert. Mr. Gue came west in 1850, and located in Wisconsin, where his family joined him some months later. From that time until 1856 he engaged in the manufacture of wagons at Portage, Wis. In the latter year he came to Minnesota and took up a government claim on the line

between Iowa and Fillmore county, where he engaged in farming and other enterprises. He built his residence in the neighboring town of Lime Springs, and there resided until 1895, when he retired and came to Austin, where he lived until his death, May 28, 1904. To Mr. and Mrs. Gue were born nine children: Charles M., Mrs. Cornelia Miles, Frank D., Mrs. Alice Addison, Inez Gue (deceased), Mrs. Grace Pugh, Mrs. Cora Le Coque, Horatio S. and Herbert E. Charles M. is at Hamilton; Horatio Seymour is in Michigan, and Herbert F. is an operator on the Milwaukee & Northern. Mrs. Gue was born in Boonville, Oneida county, New York. Her father was a constable and collector at Boonville for twenty years and was the father of fourteen children, seven of whom are living, Mrs. Minerva Reed being eighty-nine years of age. John Hurlbert helped to build the first school-house and the first church in Boonville and was a good and loving man always. He was at Sackett's Harbor in 1812 when the British and Indians were making their raids. His father, Josiah, was a coaster during the war of the Revolution. Maria Hurlbert, now Mrs. Gue, was reared in Boonville, and tells with relish of the whipping she received in 1830 when four years of age, from her first teacher, a tory, Miss Willard, who thrashed her soundly for shouting "Hurrah for Jackson." Later Mrs. Gue taught school herself in New York state, starting at the age of seventeen. She was married March 20, 1848, to Moses D. Gue, who died May 28, 1904. Mrs. Gue is very active for one of her advanced years. She is a capable business woman and looks after her own affairs. She is a member of the Christian church, and in these afternoon days of her life she reaps much benefit and sweet consolation from that faith, being a constant reader of all the published sermons pertaining to her church. She has always been a hard worker, and is still very industrious. She is eighty-four years of age, has raised a large family, for whom she acted as school teacher in the early days, has done much good and is highly esteemed and respected.

Silas Burton Hart, a substantial and well-liked farmer of Windom township, was born July 19, 1855, in Clayton, N. Y., son of Benjamin and Mary (Bachelder) Hart. He was reared in Iowa, and educated in the public schools of that state, after which he took up farming with his friends for a time and then started out in life for himself. He now owns 120 acres of good land in section 32, Windom, and successfully conducts farming operations, his home being comfortable, his barns adequate, and his machinery modern and well kept. Mr. Hart is a Republican in politics and being of a sociable nature he has allied himself with the Woodmen and the Workmen, in both of which he is a popular member. He married Jennie Varco, daughter of

Thomas and Emeline Varco, of Austin township, this county. The ceremony was performed March 12, 1882, at the bride's home, and their union has been blessed with eight children. There are three dead, Delilah A., born August 25, 1888; Grace V., born August 28, 1894, and one unnamed infant born November 22, 1896. The living are: Benjamin Thomas, born December 30, 1882, now living in Austin; S. Emeline, born September 20, 1884, now living at home; Paul B., born August 28, 1886, now living in Austin; Gladys I., born March 21, 1890, now wife of Arthur De Remer, of Nevada township; and Ada J., born May 13, 1892, now living at home. Emeline and Ada are both successful teachers. Benjamin Hart and Mary Batchelder, his wife, were born respectively in New York state and Vermont. The former was a shipbuilder and died June 26, 1861, at the age of 53. The latter died February 22, 1873. By their marriage, which occurred June 8, 1828, they had twelve children. Of these Silas B. is the youngest. Four of the family are now living. It is worthy of note that three of the brothers were in the Civil war. One, now living in Plymouth, Mich, was severely wounded and one, Benjamin, was born September 3, 1841, enlisted in Company K, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and died January 3, 1863, at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo., while in the United States service.

Joseph Hagan conducts an excellent farm of 160 acres in Red Rock township, is an estimable citizen and has done public service as a member of the township board of supervisors, and of the school board of his district. He was born in Columbia county, Wisconsin, November 23, 1872, son of Frank and Bridget (Costello) Hagan. In 1878 he was brought to Red Rock township by his parents and was reared to manhood on the farm, working summers and attending school winters. After he was twenty-one he left the home roof and farmed for some years before purchasing his present farm. He married Margaret Ryan in 1904, and they have two children: George E., aged four years, and Genevieve M., aged two years. Mrs. Hagan is the daughter of John and Johannah (Sheehan) Ryan.

Frank Hagan was born in Ireland, and married Bridget Costello. In 1840 he located in Canada and worked for a time in a flouring mill. Later he moved to Portage City, Wis., when the site of that city was occupied by nothing but a fort. At this point his father erected a flour mill, and in 1878 came to Red Rock township, Mower county, where they settled on a farm in section 20.

Peter Hanson, a retired farmer of Austin, is a native of Denmark, his natal date being January 24, 1850. His education has been largely self-acquired, though he attended the public schools

of his native land for a time. In 1869 he crossed the Atlantic to America, locating at Milton Junction, Rock county, Wisconsin, working on a farm a while and then going to Milwaukee, where he remained four years. In 1876 he came to Minnesota, settling at Rose Creek, Mower county, and purchasing some land, started farming operations on his own account, continuing in this line of work until his removal to Austin nine years ago, where he has since lived retired, enjoying a well-earned rest after his years of toil. His politics are Republican, and he has always borne his part in local affairs, serving as supervisor during his fifteen years' residence in Nevada township, and in the same office in Brownsdale, where he lived eleven years. He is identified with the Masons, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, and the Eastern Star Lodge. He was master of the lodge two years. In 1876 he was married to Hannah Hanson, by whom he has two children: Albert H. and Elizabeth D. Peter and Katharine Hanson, parents of our subject, lived all their lives in Denmark, the father working as a mechanic.

Isaac N. Howe, owner and proprietor of a prosperous rug manufactory in Austin, is an old-time resident of Mower county, and a veteran of the Civil war. He was born in New York state, his parents being Lyman S. and Mary Ann (Benham) Howe. The family migrated to Illinois, and lived in Cook county five years, afterward taking up their residence in Grundy county, in the same state. The subject of this sketch enlisted in the Union army at Joliet, and served in Company M, Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, being discharged at Madison, Ind., May 13, 1865. In the fall of that year he came to Fillmore county, this state, and in 1880 to Mower county. In 1895 he went to Day county, but in the fall of 1900 came back to Mower county, where he has since lived. The rug manufactory of which Mr. Howe is the proprietor manufactures what is called the Fluff rug, and is the only concern of its kind in the county. Mr. Howe is a member of the G. A. R. He was married December 7, 1865, to Augusta Jane Benham, and they lived together nine years. To this union were born three children: Elias N., Albert and Etta. In 1880 he married Ellen Josephine Bailey, and to this union three children were born, William S., Cora A. and Etta M. Mrs. Ellen Howe died in 1888, and in 1892 Mr. Howe was married to Sarah L. Bailey, a native of Austin, daughter of Benjamin F. Bailey.

Thomas W. Hines, a former farmer of Windom township, was born in Janesville, Wis., September 15, 1871, son of Walter and Mary (Joyce) Hines, both natives of England. The family moved to McGregor, Iowa, when Thomas W. was an infant, and here Walter Hines, the father, conducted a grocery and dry goods store a short time. In 1874 the family came to Windom township

and here Walter Hines, the father, farmed until 1901, when he died at the age of seventy-five years, his wife dying at the age of sixty-nine. Thomas W. was reared on the farm, attended the district schools, and carried on agricultural operations until 1907, in which year he came to Austin, where he still resides, the farm in Windom township being rented. His sisters, Margaret and Scharlotte, are dead. His brother, George, lives in Rose Creek and his sister, Mary, is the wife of N. H. Garrison. Mr. and Mrs. Garrison have one child, Lillian. The subject of this sketch is a member of the M. W. A.

Eugene V. Hart was born December 16, 1870, at Owatonna, Minn., son of J. Allen and Amy (Varco) Hart. In the fall of 1879 the family moved to Mower county, purchasing the northeast quarter of section 25, Austin township. He received his education in the district schools of Austin township, but at an early age was forced to leave school and take up the responsibilities of the farm, this move being made necessary by the death of his father. With courage and ability he set at work and his efforts have been crowned with success. He is honored in the community and has been treasurer of the township several years. He is also steward of the Grange. Mr. Hart has a fine farm of 228 acres, on which he conducts general farming and stock raising. He was married December 10, 1902, to Rachael Brooks, and two daughters, Irene and Bernice O., have blessed their union. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

Riley Brooks was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, November 22, 1846, son of Aaron and Susan (Bishop) Brooks, of Pennsylvania. At the age of eight years Riley was taken to Indiana, and there at the age of seventeen he enlisted in Company C, Seventeenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, serving until mustered out and honorably discharged at the close of the war. He came to Fillmore county in 1866, stayed a few years, then located a claim in Rock county, this state, after which in 1867 he came to Mower county. In 1880 he purchased 160 acres in section 27, Austin township, where he made many improvements, and to which he added from time to time until he now owns a very large place. He has served as supervisor of his township for a dozen years, and has been a member of the school board for a still longer period. Riley Brooks was married January 1, 1878, to Cora Lott, daughter of Abraham Lott, and to this union have been born five children: Rachael, Abraham, Edith O., Lyman and Amanda. Rachael is the wife of Eugene Hart, while the other four are at home.

Robert L. Johnson, prominent in the business and political life of Austin, is a native son of Mower county, being born at Waltham, Minn., September 14, 1863. He received his education in

the district schools of this county, concluding with a course in the Rochester business college of Rochester, Minn. After teaching school for a few terms near home, he gave his attention to the operation of the old home farm until 1889, when he moved onto a 360-acre farm of his own in section 13, Waltham township, on which he followed general farming for the next three years. In the fall of 1892 he was elected auditor of Mower county, succeeding himself for the ensuing ten years, and then, refusing another term, he engaged in the insurance business at Austin, enjoying a large patronage throughout this section of the state. Mr. Johnson is secretary of the Austin Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Minnesota, has served as secretary and bookkeeper of the Minnesota Farmers' Elevator Association since 1908, and was instrumental in the organization of the Farmers' Brick and Tile Company, December, 1909, now acting as treasurer and director. His politics are Republican, his long service as auditor attesting to his popularity throughout the county. He is associated with the Masonic order as a Knight Templar, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. January 14, 1889, he was married to Lizzie V. Lyons, at Lansing, Minn. They have two children: Louise L., born September 29, 1898, and Hazel L., born March 1, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are loyal members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their home is at 104 South St. Paul street. George and Dorothy (Bailey) Johnson, parents of our subject, were natives of Leicestershire, England. After coming to the United States they first located at Buffalo, N. Y., subsequently removing to Marquette county, Wisconsin, and engaging in farming for a time. They were among the pioneers of Mower county, the father carrying on farming in Red Rock township for two years, and then purchasing a quarter section in Waltham township, gradually adding to this until he owned a section of wild land. With true pioneer courage he took up the immense task of clearing and rendering the land fit for farming purposes, erecting a house and farm buildings, and adding improvements from year to year, successfully following general farming up to the time of his death, which occurred July 2, 1872. His wife died in October, 1892.

Nathaniel T. Johnson, one of the extensive land-owners of Mower county, now resides at 110 South Kenwood avenue, in the city of Austin, and rents his rich acres to several capable parties. He was born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, April 20, 1856, son of George and Dorothy (Bailey) Johnson, who brought him to Mower county at the age of six years. He was reared on the family farm in Waltham township, and at an early age took charge of the place, continuing general farming and making a

specialty of raising hogs, sheep and cattle, until his retirement from farm life in the fall of 1909. He now owns the home farm of 360 acres and an additional forty acres which he purchased in Waltham township, as well as another farm of 400 acres in the same township, making in all 800 acres which he owns in this county. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, served as county commissioner four years, was chairman, supervisor and treasurer of his township at various times, and clerk and director of school district No. 61. He belongs to the Blue Lodge and the Commandery, in the Masonic order, and attends the Methodist church. The subject of this sketch was married March 28, 1894, to Louisa Duff, and this union has been blessed with two children: Glenn I., born December 8, 1895, and Robert C., born January 5, 1899.

George Johnson, now deceased, one of the early farmers of Mower county, was born in Leicestershire, England, and there married Dorothy Bailey. They came to America in 1852, located for a time in Erie county, New York, and in 1854 took up their residence in Marquette county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming until 1862, when they came to Mower county and located in Waltham township, purchased eighty acres of land for 100 sheep and \$100 in money. To this farm they added from time to time, until they owned a fine place of 680 acres, most of which they broke and improved themselves. George Johnson died July 24, 1872, and his widow survived until October 25, 1892, when she, too, passed to the Great Beyond.

John O. Johnson, farmer of Lyle township, just on the outskirts of the village, was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, July 16, 1859, son of Ole A. and Isabelle (Fossey) Johnson, natives of Norway. These worthy people came to America in 1859, located in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and in 1868 came to Freeborn county, Minnesota, locating in Albert Lea township, where they own 320 acres of highly improved land. John O. received his education in the public schools and after leaving school took up farming in Hayward township, in Freeborn county, working 162 acres until 1891, when he rented his farm and moved to the village of Hayward and engaged in the mercantile business for nearly eight years. During this period he was also interested in a general store in Lyle, for which he hired a local manager. In 1899 he sold his mercantile interests, and in the following spring purchased the "City View" farm of 140 acres, on which he now conducts general farming, having made many improvements on the place. He raises diversified crops, but makes a specialty of Shorthorn cattle and high-grade Percheron horses. Mr. Johnson is also interested in many other places, and has a large tract of land in Cuba. He owns stock in the cement plants at Mason City, Iowa, and at Dallas, Tex. He also holds stock in the Farmers'

Brick and Tile Company at Austin, Minn., and in a box factory at Denver, Colo. He was married September 25, 1888, to Matilda Arneson, and their union has been blessed with two sons: Odin J., who is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, and Chester W., who is a student there. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics and has served as a member of the school board of Lyle.

Henry L. Jensen, popular general merchant of Rose Creek, was born in the village where he still resides, September 18, 1870, son of Thomas and Matilda (Yunk) Jensen, the former a native of Denmark, who came to America in 1864, and the mother a native of Germany. In the family were three sons: John, now of Washington; Henry L., of Rose Creek, and Andrew, of Windom township, and one daughter, Mrs. Christ Nelson, who died in 1902. Henry L. attended the district schools, and as a youth learned the carpenter trade, which he followed continuously for fifteen years. In 1907, with Peter N. Weinert as a partner, he embarked in the general store business and the enterprise has been very successful. Mr. Jensen married Lena Nelson, May 27, 1896, daughter of David Nelson. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. and of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

John R. Johnson owns a fertile farm of 200 acres in Marshall township, and carries on general farming, his especial pride being a fine herd of thirty-five Shorthorn cattle. He has taken an active interest in public affairs, is one of the Republican leaders of the county, has served as township chairman, assessor and treasurer at various terms, and has been a member of the board of county commissioners for six years. The subject of this sketch was born in Norway, May 25, 1852, son of J. C. Johnson, Sr., and Mary C. Johnson, his wife. Both parents came to Mower county in 1861. John R. received but little schooling, but has made up that lack by much reading and keen observation. In 1878 he started in life for himself and purchased eighty acres in Marshall township. He stands well in the community, and aside from the offices mentioned above, has been a member of the school board, district 105, for twenty-five years. In 1878 he married Randi Dahle (came to this country in the year 1866), and this union has been blessed with five children: Mary, now Mrs. Jacob Lund, of South Dakota; Hannah, now Mrs. Peterson, of Iowa; Clara, Ella and Joel, at home. The family worships at the Lutheran church.

Thomas D. Iorms was a respected resident of Mower county eight years, and it has been truly said that his community is the better for his life. He was born in Deddington, England, son of John and Mary (Bennett) Iorms, also natives of that country. He came to Lansing, Iowa, in 1865, and later lived in Grant

county, Wisconsin, where he farmed for a long period and in later life farmed eight years in Red Rock township. In 1909 he moved to Brownsdale village, and there died April 9, 1910. He was married in 1883 to Frances Palmer, and this union has resulted in four children: Ormal B., Clarissa O. (deceased), Krete L. (deceased) and Lepha P. Mrs. Iorms was born in Brodttville, Grant county, Wisconsin, daughter of Philip and Angeline (Brodtt) Palmer, farmers of that place. She was reared in her native place, and like her mother before her, taught school for a number of years, her work being performed in her native county.

George Johnson was born in Saxelby, Leicestershire county, England, May 13, 1849, son of George and Dorothy (Bailey) Johnson. The grandfather and great grandfather were also named George. The subject of this sketch came with his parents to America in 1851, and with them lived eighteen months in Coldon, Erie county, New York; nine years in Newton, Marquette county, Wisconsin, and later on section 22, Waltham township, in this county, where they finally settled. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, and then purchased a farm of his own in the southeast quarter of section 23. He still manages his fine farm of 260 acres in Waltham township, but makes his home in Brownsdale. Mr. Johnson married for his first wife, Chloe Simmonson, a native of Wisconsin, who died as a bride of one year. Mr. Johnson later married Lenora, daughter of John and Charlotte (Pears) Miles, the former being a brickmaker in England. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson attend the Baptist church in Brownsdale and are liberal contributors to its progress, both financially and socially.

Jacob Jacobson, an extensive land owner of Nevada township, and veteran of the Civil war, was born in Norway, December 25, 1848, son of Jacob Knutson and Annie H., his wife, who came to America from Norway in 1861 and in 1867, took a homestead in section 24, Nevada township, both being now deceased. Jacob came to the United States in 1861, and after reaching Nevada worked out by the month three years, after which he enlisted in the First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, serving one year and being stationed at Chattanooga and Nashville. Upon his return he worked out and then started as a landed farmer by purchasing eighty acres in section 24. By hard work, frugality, shrewdness and diligence he has increased his acreage until he now owns 615 acres of excellent land, twenty acres of which is an excellent grove of timber. He follows diversified farming, and raises cattle for beef and dairy purposes, selling cream to the Nevada creamery. He is a Republican in politics and attends the Lutheran church. Jacob Jacobson married Mary Anderson and they have ten children: Emelia is now Mrs. Martin Nelson, of Nevada town-

ship; Clara is Mrs. Ole Loston, of Mower county; Hanna is Mrs. Virgil Bisbee, and lives in Baker, Mont.; Georgina is Mrs. Oliver Berg, of North Dakota; Emma is Mrs. Ed I. Anderson, of North Dakota; and John, Lewis, Josie, Sophia and Laura are at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Knudt Jacobson, a successful farmer in Nevada township, was born in Norway, February 10, 1846, son of Jacob and Annie J. Jacobson. He came to America in 1862, in a sailing vessel, occupying nine weeks in making the trip. He landed in Quebec, and then went to Iowa and worked out for two years. Later he worked in Goodhue and Rice counties, in this state. It was in 1867 he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres in section 24, Nevada township. On this land he erected a log cabin 14x16 and lived therein twenty-six years, after which he built his present home. At once upon locating on the farm he started farming operations, in which he was so successful that he was enabled from time to time to add to his place, giving it a present total acreage of 200. At first, like all other early settlers, he raised wheat, oats and corn. Of late years he has devoted his attention to mixed farming, grade cattle and hogs. He now rents his land to his son. Mr. Jacobson is a Republican in politics, and has served as road overseer and as a member of the school board. He was married March 21, 1869, to Annie Anderson, a native of Norway. They have five children: Oliver, Annie, Jacob, Bertha and Andrew. Oliver died in 1910 at the age of thirty-two, after traveling two years for his health. Annie is the widow of A. P. Anderson and lives in Adams township. Jacob is married and keeps a store in Polk county, this state. Bertha is the wife of Olaf Jarandson, a farmer of Clay county, Minnesota. Andrew lives at home and rents the home farm. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Jens A. Jensen is one of the foremost farmers of Windom township, where he has lived since 1871. He conducts a fine nursery and fruit farm on the northeast corner of section 27, one mile north and one mile west of the village of Rose Creek. He is advanced in his methods, and his small tract of land proves more profitable than many a rich quarter section less scientifically worked. It is worthy of note that Mr. Jensen received a bronze medal at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, for his excellent apples. The subject of this sketch was born June 27, 1846, son of Jens and Anna Jensen. His youthful days were spent on the farm and in school, remaining at home with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he left his native land, Denmark, and came to America, landing in Quebec. He went directly to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and in 1868 came to Mower county. He was a young man at the time and did not make any

settlement. He lived in Bennington township a year and then returned to his native land, fall of 1869, to visit friends, after which he came back to Mower county, spring of 1870. In 1874 he purchased land in the northeast part of section 27. Being a natural mechanic, he set out to build a house for himself and this he accomplished in so satisfactory a manner that he has often been called upon to do carpenter work for his neighbors. Aside from making a business success of the nursery and fruit line, Mr. Jensen is a sincere lover of his chosen vocation, and takes a deep interest in the horticultural development of southern Minnesota. He has also taken an interest in township affairs and has served in various offices, including three years as member of the township board of supervisors. Mr. Jensen has been twice married. His first wife, Dorathea Johansen, died in 1873, leaving two children, Annie M. and Johanna, a third having died. Mr. Jensen was then married, in 1874, to Sinne Nielsen, and Mary, Jens, Nellie, Emma, Agnes and Lillian have been born. In 1910 he was chosen member of the first Minnesota Preservation Congress.

Jens Jensen, the father, had three children, Jens A., Nels Peter and Christian Julius by his second wife.

Ole Klemestad, now deceased, was for many years the sturdy blacksmith of Udolpho township. He was born in Ringerike, Norway, July 8, 1842, came to America in 1875, and a year later married Helen Hanson, of Gjovik, Norway, who came to America in 1875, and who throughout her husband's life proved a good wife and sympathetic and hard working helpmeet. Her mother is still living in the village of Corning at the good old age of eighty-seven years. Mr. Klemestad farmed until his death, but also had a blacksmith shop on his place and did smithy work for the farmers from miles around. He was a good and upright citizen, an affectionate husband and a kind father, his death in 1903 being sincerely mourned. He was a faithful member of the Lutheran church, which his family still attends.

Mr. and Mrs. Klemestad had seven children, of whom five are living. Anna, the oldest, was married to Gullick Tollefson in 1897. They reside on a farm in Freeborn county, near Corning. Seven children have been born to them. The oldest girl, Hilda T., died on February 14, 1908, of measles. The other children are: George A., Alice O., Oliver L., Earnest N., Hilda T., and Anna G. Andrew, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Klemestad, is at present working his mother's farm. He has been in the Dakotas a good deal of the time. Lena J. is a schoolma'am, teaching both English and Norwegian. She is also greatly interested in poultry. Hilmar O. is a "home boy," having worked his mother's farm for several years. Last year he went to Austin and worked at the baker's trade, employed by the Home Bakery. Olga N., the

baby in age but not in appearance, is especially interested in farming and horses. She is an excellent horseback rider. Nordahl (deceased) was a bright, honest and well-liked boy. He worked in the neighborhood of his home the greater part of the time. In April, 1907, he went to Minneapolis to work, going into partnership with his cousin, Monrad Lund, of that place. They worked at the well drilling business. Everything went well until they commenced working in an elevator shaft in Oneida block on First avenue. While working there they had to work Sundays and nights, while the elevator was not in use. On Sunday afternoon, September 9, 1907, while working in the shaft, the drill struck a stone, and young Lund went down to see what was the matter. Nordahl called down to him, and receiving no reply, he also went down to see what he could do. As soon as the boys were missed everything that human power could do was done to save them, but by the time that their bodies were taken out of the well they were entirely overcome by foul gas. This was indeed a sad bereavement to both families. Nordahl and Monard were first cousins, Mrs. Klemestad and Mrs. Lund being sisters. Nordahl was born July 17, 1881. His sad departure is mourned by all who knew him.

A. G. Kellogg, for many years a Dexter township farmer, now the owner of a storage and warehouse business at Austin, was born in Vermillion county, Indiana, September 19, 1847, son of Orrison and Theodoshea (Cooper) Kellogg, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Indiana. In 1852 the family removed from Indiana to Dodge county, Wisconsin, and there Orrison followed farming until his death in 1866, his wife surviving him many years and dying in Denver, Colo., in 1886. A. G. received his education in the public schools of Columbus, Wis., and farmed in Wisconsin until 1872. After four years spent in Chicago he came to Mower county in 1876, and located on eighty acres in Dexter county, where he farmed until 1896, when he rented his farm and moved to Austin, purchasing twenty acres of land on South Kenwood avenue. Ten of these acres he sold. On the remaining ten he built a comfortable home and there resided until April, 1909, when he moved to his present home at 314 East Water street. In 1909 he opened a warehouse business in the block owned by him at 405 East Bridge street. Mr. Kellogg is a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted in the Union army in November, 1864, serving in Company A, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and receiving his discharge at Madison, Wis., July 5, 1865. He was in the battles of Richmond and Five Forks, and in a number of skirmishes, being wounded in the left breast and arm, thus necessitating his confinement in the Camp Bell hospital at Washington and the National hospital at Madison,

Wis. The subject of this sketch was married in September, 1871, to Martha E. Nashold, of Columbus, Wis., who died April 30, 1910. They were blessed with two children: Josie Bell, who is now Mrs. Martin Lee, of Austin, and a second child, who died in infancy. Mr. Kellogg has three brothers and one sister living: Dr. A. C. Kellogg, of Portage, Wis.; O. P., of Chicago, Ill.; S. G., of Denver, Colo., and Mrs. Hersa J. White, of Denver, Colo.

John J. Kornberg, now retired, for many years a substantial blacksmith of Mower county, was born in Denmark, September 24, 1842, son of John and Mary (Kornberg), also natives of Denmark. The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and early manhood in Denmark and was engaged at his trade as a blacksmith nine years before coming to America in 1867. Upon his arrival in this country he went to Chicago and stayed there two months, later making brief visits to Bloomington, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo. At Washington, Mo., he worked eight months, reaching Austin in April, 1868. Here he was first employed by Johnson & Hunt, and then by Johnson & Smith, being in the latter's employ ten years. Then for three years he was in partnership with Thomas Dugan, and subsequently he conducted a shop for Abram Dickinson, on Bridge street, seventeen years. His last venture was on Mill street, where he maintained a shop of his own for twelve years. In 1910 he disposed of this shop and retired. Mr. Kornberg is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Danish Brotherhood. He married Inge Marie, deceased, and the outcome of this union was six children, two of whom are living: James, who resides in Austin, and Emma, who keeps house for her father. Frederick, Annie, Freddie and Edward are dead.

Ai N. Kinsman, the able and successful horticulturist and floriculturist of Austin, has achieved his progress in life by his thrift and energy, and now has one of the finest greenhouse plants in the west, his covers of glass amounting to more than 50,000 feet. Thus equipped he is engaged in raising many varieties of flowers, making a specialty of roses, of which he has good reason to be proud. Mr. Kinsman was born in Auburn township, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, November 19, 1854, son of C. C. and Laura (Lyon) Kinsman. He was brought to Austin by his parents in 1873, and after arriving here worked three years as clerk in his father's law office. Then he learned the carpenter trade in Cumberland, Barron county, Wisconsin. After his father's death he again took charge of the law office a year, and then returned to Austin, where he worked at his trade for a time before engaging in his present business. Mr. Kinsman married Mattie Foster, of Lucas, Wis., and has three children: Calvin D., Linnie and Bessie.

C. C. Kinsman, one of the early lawyers of Austin, was born



A. N. KINSMAN



A. N. KINSMAN'S GREENHOUSES.

in Vermont, and there married Laura Lyon. They lived for a time in Wisconsin, and from 1873 to 1880 were located in Austin. Then they moved to Cumberland, Barron county, Wisconsin, and lived there until 1885, going from there to Ashland, Wis., remaining one year. In October, 1886, C. C. Kinsman died. They had five children: Ai N., Ida, Herbert, Jessie and Mamie.

Joseph Keenan, a well-known real estate dealer of Austin, was born in Mount Pleasant, Pa., March 11, 1848, son of James and Elizabeth (Farnell) Keenan. The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Mount Pleasant, and came west with his parents in 1867, settling with them on a farm in Oakland, Freeborn county, this state, where the father lived until his death. Joseph and his brother James engaged in the carriage business in Austin, manufacturing wagons, carriages, etc., for six years, after which they abandoned the manufacturing end of the business and began shipping in the vehicles which they sold, this being cheaper than manufacturing them. The business continued until 1906, since which date Joseph Keenan has been engaged in the land and real estate business. He is a member of the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A., the A. O. U. W., the Maccabees, the K. of C., and the Austin Commercial Club. He is at present, and for eleven years past, a member of the board of education, and was for four years a county commissioner. He was married for the first time, to Addie A. Revord, and to this union were born four children: Regina, Angela, Claud C. and Genevieve. Regina is now Mrs. Frank J. Bendsberger, and Angela is now Mrs. William Hauf. Genevieve is now Mrs. Edward L. Simmons. Mrs. Addie Revord Keenan died July 15, 1894, and Mr. Keenan married for his second wife Lizzie L. Downey, of Portage, Wis., daughter of Miles Downey. To this union have been born two children: Raymond M. and Addie.

Francis W. Kimball, civil engineer and railroad contractor of Austin, has taken an active interest in the development of the farms of Mower county, and has prominently served in many movements directed toward this end. He was born in Reading, Mass., February 11, 1844, was taken by his parents to Middleton, Mass., where he attended school and grew to manhood, afterward becoming a civil engineer. In this capacity he did construction work on the old Boston & Hartford railroad, which, after becoming the Central New England, is now controlled by the N. Y., N. H. & H. In 1866 Mr. Kimball came westward to see the country, and having faith in this part of the United States, he prepared to locate here permanently. From 1868 to 1873 he was engaged in railroad engineering work in Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota, at the same time operating his farm in Waltham. He went to Milwaukee, Wis., in 1883, and again engaged in rail-

roading. He dates his permanent residence in Austin from 1889, his occupation still being railroad constructing. He is also president of the Austin Dairy Company. Mr. Kimball was married first to Annie Bodwell, of Salem, N. H., who died in 1890, leaving four children: Grace, Dollie, Parker and Paul. The present Mrs. Kimball was Etta Bodwell, of Haverhill, Mass., daughter of Stephen and Sophia Bodwell, well-known residents of that place.

Mathias Krebsbach, one of the honored pioneers, was born on April 21, 1835, spent his early manhood on the farm in Germany, and in 1855 came to America, landing at New York in July of that year, after a voyage of forty-two days. At once upon landing he set out for the west, with only \$8 in his pocket, his first stop being in McHenry county, Illinois, where he remained two months, after which he went to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, where he found employment on a farm, remaining three months. He came to Mower county in 1857 and commenced work on his new dwelling May 4, completing it shortly afterward. He raised his first crop of wheat in the season of 1860. This wheat was hauled to McGregor and sold for barely enough to pay expenses. Mr. Krebsbach conducted the general store in the village for several years, and when his sons, John and Michael, were of age, turned the business over to them. He was first president of the village of Adams, was on the village council in 1900 and was also the first pathmaster in the vicinity. He was one of the first trustees of the Catholic church at Adams. Mathias Krebsbach was married in September, 1858, to Susan Bondis, a native of Germany, who came to America in 1856. They are the parents of Michael, born January 6, 1860; John, born January 29, 1861; Gertrude, born August 27, 1863; Anna, February 20, 1865; Joseph, April 20, 1869, and Mary, born September 2, 1876. Susan Krebsbach died January 20, 1911.

Michael Krebsbach, business man of Adams, was born January 6, 1860, son of Mathias and Susan (Bondis) Krebsbach. He spent his early manhood in his father's store, was associated with his brother in the dry goods business, after the father turned the store over to them, and also had a share in managing the concern which is now the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery. He now conducts a prosperous and lucrative business in the village and is vice president of the First National bank, of Adams. He married Annie, daughter of N. M. and Elizabeth (Blake) Smith, and this union has been blessed with five children: Isabelle, Julietta, Leona, William and Roy. Mrs. Krebsbach died May 6, 1910.

John H. Krebsbach, grain elevator man of Adams village, was born in Adams township, February 28, 1861, son of Mathias and Susan (Bondis) Krebsbach. He lived on the farm until he was ten years of age, when he came into the village and attended

school. At the age of thirteen he worked in the warehouse of Gilchrist & Co., and at the age of twenty, with his brother Michael, received charge of his father's store. In 1881 John H. started a creamery as a side issue. This he conducted with success for sixteen years, after which it was turned over to the farmers of the township, who still conduct it on the co-operative plan. John still has an interest in the general store which his brother conducts, and the brother also has an interest in the elevator which John conducts, but of late years the subject of this sketch has taken entire charge of the elevator business, which he started in 1885. He married Alice, daughter of Nicholas N. and Elizabeth Blake, and this union has resulted in seven children: William T., Arthur J., Paul M., Edward E., Frederick J., Raymond and Alvina.

Albert Knight, now deceased, was for many years an esteemed and respected citizen of Howard county, Iowa. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, December 3, 1858, son of Joseph Knight, a native of England, who came to America and settled in Dane county. Albert attended the district schools, and grew to manhood on the farm, remaining there until 1889, when he removed to Howard county, Iowa, and successfully farmed until 1901, when failing health caused his retirement to LeRoy village, where he died, October 9, 1901. Mr. Knight served as a member of the school and township board in Howard county, and was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He was a firm believer and an active worker in the Presbyterian church at LeRoy. The subject of this sketch was married February 27, 1883, to Hattie E. Billington, daughter of Lorenzo D. and Hannah (Mabbott) Billington. Mrs. Hattie E. Knight died December 18, 1897, after bearing to Mr. Knight six children: Albert Leonard was born November 23, 1883; Alice L. was born January 19, 1885, and died March 7, 1902; Jennie M. was born January 19, 1887, and died June 14, 1889; Lura E. was born October 20, 1890; Edith I. was born July 3, 1894, and Robert H. was born December 18, 1897. February 22, 1900, Mr. Knight married Lizzie M. Billington, a sister of his first wife. Mrs. Knight is an active worker in church and social circles. She is a member of the Women's Relief Corps at LeRoy, and color-bearer for James George Post, 56, G. A. R. She is vice president of the W. C. T. U., has been president of the Ladies' Guild of the Presbyterian church, is a Sunday school teacher in the same church, and is a member of the LeRoy Library association.

Lorenzo D. Billington was born in Ohio, June 19, 1828, and married Hannah Mabbott, born in England, July 2, 1837, and a long time resident of Arena, Wis., to which place she was taken as a child of eight years by her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Billington

were the parents of eight children: Jane was born May 27, 1858, and lives in Nebraska; Eugene was born September 13, 1860, and died December 25, 1906; Granville was born January 8, 1861, and died in infancy; Hattie was born February 22, 1862, and died December 18, 1897; Mary E. was born December 10, 1865, and is now the wife of Charles Dickinson, of Chippewa Falls, Wis.; Lizzie M. was born July 6, 1868, and lives in LeRoy; Clara E. was born November 27, 1871, and died May 13, 1900; Elmer was born October 3, 1875, was married August 30, 1902, to Mabel Porter, and lives in Arena, Wis.

Theodore H. Kramer, assistant cashier of the First State Bank, of Dexter, was born in Cresco, Howard county, Iowa, May 7, 1889, son of Jacob and Bertha (Kedolph) Kramer. He was brought by his parents to Dexter in 1898, and attended the Dexter high school. In June, 1907, he graduated from the Southern Minnesota Normal College, at Austin, and thereafter for a short period helped his father on the farm. Then he accepted his present position. Mr. Kramer lives at home with his parents. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the M. W. A. He is just at the threshold of a successful career and his friends predict for him a brilliant future.

Jacob Kramer was born in Howard county, son of one of the early families of that vicinity. His parents came from Havre, together, in 1851, and his mother is now living at Grange, Minn. Jacob married Bertha Kedolph, who was born near Berlin, Germany, and was brought to America by her parents in 1868, living for some years thereafter in Eldora, Iowa. Jacob Kramer followed farming in Howard county, Iowa, until about twelve years ago, when he came to Dexter. There are seven children in the family, Theodore H., assistant cashier of the Dexter First State Bank, being the oldest.

John P. Krebsbach, a prominent real estate dealer of Adams village, was born in Johnsburg, Wis., October 5, 1869, son of Nicholas Krebsbach, a native of Germany, who came to America in 1855 and located in Wisconsin. John P. was educated in Wisconsin, and there grew to manhood. In 1895 he came to the village of Adams, first engaged in the furniture business four years, and has since conducted a real estate office, handling Dakota and Minnesota land, but dealing largely with Dakota people. He is a Republican in politics, has been recorder of the village of Adams, and belongs to the Foresters and the Knights of Columbus. The subject of this sketch was married, in 1898, to Annie Krebsbach, daughter of Mathias Krebsbach, a pioneer. This union has been blessed with four children: Francis A. N., Regina, G. Alphonso, and Herbert, who died in infancy. The

former three are attending school. The family faith is that of the Roman Catholic church.

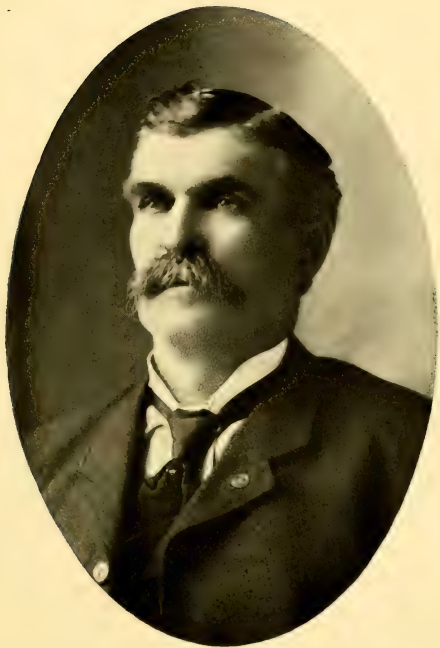
W. P. Lambert, restaurant keeper at Austin, was born in Paw-Paw, Ill., in 1880, son of Oscar D. and Clara (Hampton) Lambert. Oscar D. Lambert originally came from Hamlin, N. Y., and in 1878 came west and located in Illinois. In 1886 he came to Minnesota and purchased a farm at Red Rock, where the subject of this sketch, William, assisted his father in farming. William grew up on this farm, attended the district school in the winter, and later for three seasons took courses in the Southern Minnesota Normal school at Austin. In this way he gained a good business education. In the meantime he had learned cooking as a boy at home and followed this at various times, working his way through school by waiting on table. During the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo he worked as a waiter at Niagara Falls. He also worked as clerk at Hirsch's clothing store during the fall and winter of several years, going out each year to act as waiter or cook. Following this manner of employment for some time, he saved enough of his earnings to start in business for himself in 1904, in which year he purchased the restaurant near the C., M. & St. P. station, and since which date the place has increased in popularity and patronage. Mr. Lambert is a member of the Blue Lodge and of the Commandery in the Masonic order, and he also belongs to the Eagles. He was married September 12, 1906, to Bertha Ames, daughter of Henry and Barbara (Sachse) Ames, and to this union has been born one daughter, Ruth.

Henry Lang, an old and respected citizen of Austin, was born in Scotland, June 10, 1842. Shortly after his birth, in 1844, he came to this country with his parents, who first located in New York city, thence removing to Taunton, Mass., and from there to Roxbury, Mass., finally settling in Wisconsin, where he received his education. After leaving school he at once engaged in farming, coming to Minnesota in 1862 and settling on a 240-acre tract in London township, Freeborn county, breaking and developing the land, and building a house and barns. On this farm he followed general diversified farming until 1902, achieving unusual success through hard work and common sense farming methods. He then disposed of this property, and moving to Austin, he purchased a piece of land with a small house, situated on the corner of Oakland street and Kenwood avenue, and soon afterward removed the old house, erecting a fine modern residence on the same site where he now makes his home. In politics he casts his ballot for the welfare of the community, regardless of party lines. Mr. Lang served fifteen years as clerk of London township, and

was also clerk of his school district for many years. The Masonic order numbers him among its loyal members. May 9, 1866, he was married to Jane Meadowcroft, who died July 30, 1902. Eight children were born to them, six of whom are living: Mary, living at home with her father; Kate, who died March 16, 1903; Edith, living in South Dakota, wife of R. B. McPherson; Margaret, living in North Dakota, wife of D. T. Watkins; George, of Spokane, Wash.; Maude, who died January 18, 1910; Benjamin, living in Canada; and Mattie, living at home, clerk for French & Sasse, attorneys. The family attend worship at the Presbyterian church.

Clifford C. Leck, M. D., a prominent member of the medical profession at Austin, was born October 28, 1873, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His early education was received in the public schools of his native city, subsequently attending the public schools of Minneapolis, after his removal there with his parents at the age of twelve, and graduating from one of the city's high schools in 1894. After graduation he taught in the grade schools of LeRoy, Minn., for one year, prior to taking a short course in a business college. In 1897 he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, receiving his degree as doctor of medicine three years later. His first experience in his profession was received during a year as interne in the St. Paul city and county hospital, leaving to engage upon the practice of his profession at Austin in 1901. Dr. Leck has the well-merited confidence and patronage of a large clientage throughout the city and county. He is an active member of the County, State and American Medical Associations, serving one year as president and two as secretary of the Mower County Medical Society, and one year as county physician. He is now the examiner for Mower county for the State Sanitarium for Consumptives, at Walker, Minn., and local examiner for the Central Life Assurance Society, of Des Moines, and the Mutual Benefit of New Jersey. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party. The Order of Maccabees and the Phi-Alpha-Gamma fraternity count him a loyal member, and he is also identified with the local commercial club. January 1, 1903, he was married to Flora E. Horn, of LeRoy, Minn. They have three children: Ruth M., Paul C., and Robert E. The family worship at the Congregational church. Henry and Ellen (McLeod) Leck, parents of our subject, are natives of Halifax, the father being a builder by trade.

Henry W. Lightley, an extensive farmer of Austin township, is one of Mower county's distinguished citizens. He has represented the county in the lower house of the state legislature three terms, being elected in 1884, 1889 and 1903. He was appointed chairman of the delegates to the state Republican convention in 1893; was appointed by Governor Van Sant as a delegate to the



H. W. LIGHTLEY.



Farmers' Congress held at Niagara Falls, in 1903; was appointed as a delegate to a later annual session of the same congress held in Lincoln, Neb., October 6, 1910; was elected delegate to the Stock Breeders' convention held at Denver, Colo., in 1904; has served as school treasurer for eighteen years and is now serving as director; and has served as chairman of Austin township for over twenty years. He is a staunch Republican in politics, and affiliates with the Masonic order and the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was born in Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., September 28, 1838, son of John and Louise (Maltby) Lightley. He received a part of his education in New York state, and moved with his parents to Wisconsin, in 1855. There he completed his studies. In 1860 he came to Minnesota with his brother, John, and improved the quarter section in Oakland township, Freeborn county, that his brother had preëmpted in 1858. Here Henry W. remained for the summer, and in the fall went to the Black river country, where he worked in the pines for \$10 a month. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army and served until the close of the war as a private and sergeant in Company H, Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was wounded at the Battle of Sabine Cross Roads, La., and as a result carried his right arm in a sling for some time, but never left the command. He participated in all the glorious campaigns in which his regiment covered itself with glory, and was discharged in Louisiana, being mustered out at Madison, Wis., at the close of the conflict. Then he returned to Minnesota and purchased 160 acres from a speculator for \$5 an acre. On this farm he continued to make his home, working, however, in the pines thirteen winters and two summers. He has added to his land from time to time, until he now has 280 acres all told, and all in a high stage of cultivation, with well tilled acres and fine buildings. In 1874 he started breeding pure blood Percheron horses, and in addition to this he now takes great pride in his Aberdeen-Angus cattle and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Lightley was married June 25, 1877, at Austin, to Lucy Elliott, daughter of Rev. George Elliott, a clergyman. Mrs. Lightley died May 30, 1909, her union with Mr. Lightley having been blessed with four children: Bertha E. was born in 1879 and died at the age of ten years; Roy M. was born April 6, 1883; H. J. was born July 17, 1891; Ethel Ruth was born April 4, 1895.

John Lightley was a native of Yorkshire, England, and after coming to this country he married Louise A. Maltby. He located in Buffalo, N. Y., in the twenties, and purchased a small tract of timber land along the lake shore, which he cleared, graded and broke, farming there until 1855, when he brought his family to Beaver Dam, Wis. In 1861 he came to Minnesota, located on a quarter section of land in Oakland township, which his son John

had preëmpted in 1858, and there lived until his death in 1896. His wife died several years before in Oakland.

Abraham S. Lott was one of the pioneers of Mower county, having arrived in Austin in the fall of 1854 with a party of four men, as related at length elsewhere. During the four decades of his residence in this county he watched the county develop and took his share in its progress. His memory, and the example of his life, will long live in this community. The early life of Abraham S. Lott was an adventurous one. He was born in Painesville, Ohio, July 7, 1832, son of Henry Lott, a native of Pennsylvania, who moved from that state to Ohio at the age of eight years. When Abraham was very young his parents returned to Pennsylvania and took up their residence in Jefferson county. There Abraham received his earlier education. When he was fourteen years of age his family went to Missouri, and thence to Polk county, Iowa. In 1850 Abraham left the Missouri river, May 8, with a party bound on an overland trip to the gold fields, arriving in California July 22. It is worthy of note that while on this journey Mr. Lott was one of the four men who killed forty buffalo in one hour. After four years' mining in California, Mr. Lott returned by way of the Isthmus and went directly to Rock county, Wisconsin. That same fall, 1854, he came to Mower county with three others, and took a homestead claim in Austin township. The following spring, 1855, he brought his wife, and here established his home, building a house and developing the land. He added to his place from time to time until he owned 700 acres in this county. He was hard working, conscientious, energetic and well informed, and successfully farmed until old age made his retirement from the active duties of life advisable. He died December 24, 1894. Mr. Lott married Jane C. Beebe, at Union, Rock county, Wisconsin. She was born in Wyoming county, New York, September 5, 1834, daughter of Guy Beebe, who migrated with his family to Wisconsin in 1846. Mr. and Mrs. Lott were blessed with two children: Colbert H., now managing the old homestead, and Olive M., now Mrs. Riley Brooks.

Colbert H. Lott, the first boy born in Austin township, first saw the light of day October 10, 1855, on the farm where he still resides, his parents being those grand old pioneers, Abraham S. and Janes C. (Beebe) Lott. Colbert H. attended the district schools and farmed with his father, having had charge of the home place since attaining his majority. He operates about 700 acres of land, and aside from raising large crops, breeds fine Aberdeen-Angus cattle, having a herd of about 125. He also keeps about a hundred hogs, as well as the usual amount of poultry and horses. He is a Democrat in politics, but has consistently refused to accept the offices which in the estimation of his

neighbors, his honored name, his ability and his record entitle him. Being of a helpful nature, he has, however, consented to serve as treasurer of the Rose Creek cemetery for many years, and his interest in the commercial development of the township is shown by the fact that he holds investments in the Inter-State Telephone Company. In other ways he has shown his interest in the county, and has never failed to support movements for the betterment of the community. Colbert H. Lott was married January 20, 1886, to Amelia Ann Goodsell, who has proved a most able helpmeet. This union has been blessed with five children: Effie J., Cora L., Riley W., Ruth A. and Virginia B. Cora L. married Riley A. Brooks, and they have three children: Arthur A., Audrey L. and Mabel I. Mr. Lott is a high degree Mason.

Jens Larson, mayor of Lyle, is a man of extensive business interests, and is a progressive citizen, always interested in that which tends to the betterment and development of village, township and county. He was born in Norway, June 26, 1873, son of Lars and Tea (Larson) Larson, natives of Norway, now living in Christiana in that country. Jens Larson received his education in the public schools of his native country, and came to America in 1892. He located in Austin, and after working for the C., M. & St. P. for six years, engaged in the retail meat business in the Third ward. A year later he sold out and located in Lyle, continuing in the same line of business. He has been successful, and in addition to his retail trade, manufactures lard and sausage and prepares hams and bacon. He is president of the Gilbert Corrugated Culvert Company, of Austin, Minn., and Aberdeen, S. D., and is a stockholder in the Lyle Telephone Company. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the B. P. O. E. and the M. W. A., votes the Republican ticket, and before assuming his present office three years ago served three years on the village council. Mr. Larson was married June 12, 1900, to Martha Nelson, of Austin. Mrs. Nelson died January 30, 1911.

O. T. Lund, merchant, former president of the village council of Lyle, was born in Norway, September 1, 1848, son of Thor Gunnuelson and Inghorg Jurgenson, his wife, both born near Skien. Thor Gunnuelson was a carpenter and died January 17, 1868, his wife passing away in Lyle, Minn., in 1888. O. T. received his earlier education in Norway, and learned the tailor trade in the city of Skien. April 18, 1868, accompanied by his mother and sister, he left Norway, and upon arriving in America located in Columbia county, Wisconsin. In April, 1869, he went to Chicago, pursued English studies and followed his trade until 1882, when he came to Mower county, located in Lyle, and with his brother-in-law, A. O. Myher, entered into the general merchandise business by buying out G. F. Hammel. After five years the partners

divided the stock, and since that date, Mr. Lund has been in business alone. He has served as member and president of the village council of Lyle and has been on the school board some quarter of a century. Aside from his business and a pleasant home on Fourth street, he owns stock in the Lyle Telephone Company. Mr. Lund was married in Chicago in August, 1872, to Emma Olson, who died in Lyle, March 1, 1884. This union was blessed with three children: Ida Rebecca died while a student at the Norwegian Normal school at Sioux Falls, S. D.; Oscar Theadore died at eight years and Matilda Susan at eleven months. Mr. Lund was married at Lyle, August 30, 1886, to Anna Ashley, and this union has been blessed with six children: Ruth (deceased), Ruth Juliette, Cora Viola, Alice Bendicka, Thorman, C. O. and Ida Rebecca. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Arthur B. Lovell, auctioneer and merchant of Austin, was born in this city, December 6, 1871, son of B. W. and Mary Ann (Sessions) Lovell. He received his early education in the public schools and at the Madison Business College, and in the meantime obtained considerable experience with his father as a cattle dealer. At a suitable age he started in this business for himself, but later went into the brick business at Lyle. Here he lost all his money, and consequently took up the buying and selling of horses, going to Montana in 1893 and handling western horses three years. Subsequently he handled live stock for Tomlin & Stafford, of Chicago, for a year in Montana and North Dakota, and then engaged in similar work a year for Thuet Brothers, of South St. Paul. At the end of that time he came to Austin and engaged in the live stock business for himself until 1904, in which year he started business as an auctioneer, also jobbing new and second hand commodities of all descriptions. Mr. Lovell served three years in Company G, Second Regiment, Minnesota National Guard. He is a Republican in politics, and affiliates with the I. O. O. F., the M. W. A., and the F. O. E. He was married at Owatonna, March 11, 1891, to Grace M. Brown, of Nevada township, Mower county. Her parents were Ozni C. and Nancy A. Brown, who came to Mower county in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Lovell have one daughter, Ardith Lillian, born February 12, 1910.

B. W. Lovell, an early live stock dealer of Austin, was born in Vermont and married Mary Ann Sessions, of New York state. He received his early education in the schools of his native state, was admitted to the bar, and was engaged in the successful practice of his profession at St. Louis, Mo., at the outbreak of the Civil war. Then he left his office, went to Michigan, was enlisted in a Michigan regiment. While at Chattanooga he was put at work

with the rest of his company carrying heavy timbers, and this proved so great a strain that a great tumor appeared on his shoulder, seriously endangering his health. After the war he came directly west, located in Northwood, Iowa, a short time, and then came to Austin, where he opened a dairy farm, and also engaged in the sale of fruit trees. Later he started dealing in live stock, shipping the first car load ever sent out from this vicinity. In this line he continued, handling on an average of 325 car loads annually. He died in October, 1890, and his wife is still living on the old home place.

Kanute Larson, now deceased, was born in Norway, but spent the greater part of his years in America, arriving in this country in 1866 with his parents. He lived in Decorah, Iowa, two years, and then came to Lansing township and locating on the land in section twenty now owned by J. D. Sheedy, of Austin. Mr. Larson remained on this farm nine years and then moved to the southwest quarter of section sixteen, where he spent the remainder of his days, carrying on general farming with considerable success. He died April 6, 1909. The subject of this sketch was married to Lena Oakland, a native of Norway, and they were blessed with five children: Jennie, Henry, Ella, Tobias, and Carl. Jennie, who is dead, married L. F. Claussen, and they have two children, Francis and George. Henry married Mary Matheson and they have three children, Clarence, Polly and Harry. Ella, who is also dead, married William Henderson. Tobias married Clarese Nichol森 and they have four boys, Louis, Theodore, Elmer and Norman.

Carl A. is the youngest. He was reared on the farm, and now manages it for his mother. He married Hanna Monson, and to this union one child has been born, Alma L., now four years old. Gunder and Louisa Monson, parents of Mrs. Carl A. Larson, live in South Dakota. They are the parents of four children, Harry, Samuel, Hanna and John.

Lee Lewis was born in Kendall county, Illinois, May 27, 1870, son of Lars and Martha (Olson) Lewis. The father, Lars, was born January 18, 1821, and in 1858 came to America and located in Illinois, where he farmed for several years. In the spring of 1885 he came to Windom township, this county, and located on what was known as the Snow farm, five miles east of Austin. Lee Lewis came to Mower county as a lad of fifteen years, and has resided here since. After his marriage he purchased 120 acres in section twenty-eight, where he and his family now reside, being among the substantial residents of Red Rock township. The subject of this sketch married Alice, the daughter of Marion, born December 18, 1898.

August and Mary (Williams) Milbrad, and they have one child,

William D. Lockwood, who is engaged with the Colman Lumber Company, in Grand Meadow village, is a descendant of one of the oldest Connecticut families, dating his lineage back to the American founder of the family, who settled in Stamford, Conn., shortly after 1600. William D. was born in Frankford, Mower county, Minnesota, July 10, 1870, son of Henry J. Lockwood. William D. acquired the usual common school education in Grand Meadow, and worked on the farm until twenty years of age, at which time he spent eight months in Minneapolis. At the age of twenty-six he purchased a farm of his own, in Frankford, and worked on this for eleven years, after which he came to Grand Meadow, where he has various interests. He married Nanna M., daughter of C. F. Greening and Clara Caswell, his wife. Four interesting children have blessed this union, Willa M., Francis J., Harold G. and Ruth H.

Henry J. Lockwood, one of the territorial pioneers of Minnesota, was born in Otsego county, New York, August 2, 1837, came to Fillmore county in 1856, and took a land claim. Later he taught school two years, and in 1865 moved to Frankford township, where he purchased 160 acres of land, of which fifteen acres were under cultivation. On this farm he raised his family of four children, Hattie, wife of L. W. Hunt; William D., Jay and Henry J., Jr. His wife was Katherine Sharp. The father of Henry J. and grandfather of William D. Lockwood was Charles, born in New Milford, Conn., 1802. His father was Josiah, born in Norwalk, Conn., 1766. His father, Isaac, was born in Norwalk, Conn., December 24, 1727. The family record states that the family is Welsh and that three brothers came to America in 1600. Daniel settled in Stamford, Conn. Isaac, father of Isaac, mentioned above, settled in Norwalk, Conn. The third brother was either John or James, who settled at Horseneck, Conn.

H. A. Lewis, a substantial farmer of Lansing township, was born in Westfield, Dodge county, Minnesota, August 2, 1866, son of L. Lewis and Grand Hillson, his wife, natives of Norway, but now well-known residents of Blooming Prairie in Steele county. H. A. was the third of seven children, the family consisting of Louisa, now Mrs. Mick Mickelson; Lewis; Julia, now Mrs. M. J. Kirby; Emma, now Mrs. Fred Bowman; Theo, William J. and H. A. The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of his neighborhood, and has always lived in this vicinity, being now engaged in successfully conducting general farming, with some stock raising. His first wife, Annie Ulland, died, and he then married Ida Lund, daughter of Christ. Lund. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have no children, but have given the loving care of parents to an adopted son, Lee Clifford.

W. H. Lawrence, former merchant, retired, now acting secre-

tary and manager of the Red Rock Creamery Association at Brownsdale, was born in Buffalo, N. Y., September 10, 1846, son of William and Mary Lawrence. He spent his early life in farming, and in 1875 came west to Brownsdale, where he opened a general store, which he conducted for twenty-six years. His establishment was destroyed in 1900, and Mr. Lawrence did not rebuild, though he is still interested in a number of enterprises. Mr. Lawrence belongs to Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M. He married Alice C., daughter of J. B. Graves, a pioneer of Mower county. They are the parents of six children, Fay B., Margaret, Bessie, Celesta, Harry and Lucile. Margaret, who married Howard Eagan, is dead. She left four children, Elwin, Harry, Francis (deceased) and Donald.

Ole K. Lestrud, for over a quarter of a century a successful farmer in Mower county, and now a retired citizen living in Grand Meadow village, was born in Norway, July 25, 1849, son of Knut and Tora (Skearn) Lestrud, natives of Norway, where the father died. The mother came to America with her daughter in 1868, located in Dane county, Wisconsin, until 1876, and then came to Mower county, where she died in 1893. Ole received his education in Norway, and came to America in 1867, following lumbering and various occupations in Michigan and Wisconsin until 1875, when he came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres in Pleasant Valley township. This land he developed and improved, erecting the necessary buildings, and carrying on general farming until 1904, when he retired, moved to Grand Meadow village, and purchased a house and lot, wherein he now makes his home. Mr. Lestrud has taken an active part in township affairs, has been chairman and member of the township board of Pleasant Valley at various times, and is a stockholder in the First National Bank, of Grand Meadow; the Farmers' Elevator Company, of Grand Meadow, and the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery Association, of the same place. He is an independent voter and belongs to the Lutheran church. Mr. Lestrud was married, July 16, 1878, to Martha Nelson, born in Mower county, December 17, 1857, daughter of John and Mary Nelson, pioneers, who in 1855 settled in Racine township, where John Nelson died in 1883. Mr. and Mrs. Lestrud are the parents of three children: Knut, who lives in the old homestead in Pleasant Valley township; Sarah, who is a clerk in South Dakota, and Mary, who teaches in the same state.

Abijah B. M. Lindsley, a venerable resident of the Grand Meadow village, is a pleasant example of kindly old age, ripe in years and wisdom, and possessing that benevolence of spirit and that kindliness of judgment that comes only from a long life well spent. He and his good wife live in a large and comfort-

able home which he built twenty-nine years ago, and here they are spending the evening of life together. Mr. Lindsley and his wife still enjoy the good things of life, and take an interest in the affairs of the present day. Mr. Lindsley was born in Nelson, Madison county, New York, March 31, 1823, son of David and Jerusha (Merrill) Lindsley, and came west to Ripon, Wis., in 1857. There he lived twenty-four years. In 1881 he came to Grand Meadow, where he and his family have since resided. He married Lucia M. Cutler, daughter of Frasier and Lovisa (Hazelton) Cutler, the former of whom was a native of Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsley are the parents of three children: Lesler C. is living, Jennie M. died in 1874 and one died in infancy. Lesler C. married Hattie Cary, daughter of Riley P. and Maria (Grover) Cary. Mr. and Mrs. Lesler Lindsley have one son, Earl L., who married Nellie Jennings, one of the eight children of John Jennings. Riley Cary was born in Nelson, Madison county, New York, and in 1846 came to Milwaukee. His wife, Marie Grover, was born in Springwater, Livingston county, New York, and in 1847 located in Wauwatosa, Milwaukee county. They were married in 1848.

Arthur Larson, a farmer of Marshall township, was born in the township in which he still resides, in 1878, son of August Larson, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1870, settled first in Boston, where he was engaged in shoemaking, later coming to Mower county and purchasing eighty acres in Marshall township. On this farm Arthur Larson was born, spent his boyhood and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-one he started in life for himself, and worked out as a farm laborer until 1900, when he purchased eighty acres in section seven, Marshall township, where he now lives and carries on general farming, owning forty acres additional in section seventeen. He devotes his attention largely to breeding Shorthorn cattle and raising grain. Mr. Larson is a Republican. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. In 1902 he married Amanda Blom, and they have four children: Hildur Anna Cecelia, Ida Ellen Johanna, Walter Alva and Carl Bernhard Ferdenand.

Lewis Lewison is one of the prominent citizens of Adams township, and has lived here since early infancy. He was born in Norway in 1860, son of Lars Trulson, who brought his family to America in 1861, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they remained three years, after which they came to Mower county, and purchased 160 acres of land, upon which Mr. Trulson farmed until his death in 1904. The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of Mower county and remained on the home farm assisting his parents until attaining his majority. At that time he purchased 240 acres of land in section one,

Adams township, and here he has since followed general farming, raising general crops and grains, and breeding cattle for beef and dairy purposes. His house is comfortable, his barns well kept, and his acres highly cultivated. In 1890 he married Bessie Gordon, a daughter of Emery Gordon, and they have seven children: Laura, Lizzie, Clara, Alfred, Melvin, Blanche, Olaf. Mr. Lewison is a Republican and has served as road overseer. He attends the United Lutheran church.

John Mathieson, who was an honored resident of Lansing for over fifty years, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, March 14, 1833, son of Charles and Margaret (Riach) Mathieson, also natives of Scotland. The father died about 1844, and in 1853 the subject of this sketch came to this country and engaged as a shoemaker in Kenosha, Wis. The year later the mother came over and brought her two daughters, Violet and Ann. The former was married. In 1855 the family, in company with John and James Morrison, came to Lansing township, the Mathieson family settling on sections twenty-three and twenty-six, on a farm of 142 acres. A sister, Ann, taught school in Lansing township three years, and died shortly afterward. Mr. Mathieson continued to live on the home farm, which he conducted until he retired and came to Austin to live. He has now practically retired from active life, but still spends his time in looking after his various interests in the county. He has been a member of the town board of Lansing and also has served as town clerk. In 1884 he represented his district in the legislature. Mr. Mathieson is a Mason, and is the fifth oldest member of the Austin lodge.

Albert F. Mattice, who died June 30, 1907, honored and respected by all with whom he had come in contact, was born in Fulton, Schenectady county, New York, April 13, 1845. At an early age he came to Waterloo, Wis., with his parents, receiving his education in the public schools of that place. Though but sixteen years old at the outbreak of the war, he enlisted September 2, 1861, in Company C, Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving the entire four and a half years of the war, and rising from private to second lieutenant, these promotions attesting to an excellent record. Returning to his home in Waterloo, he worked in the commission house of his father for a time, and then entered into railroading for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, first acting as brakeman, then as fireman, and in 1873 was made an engineer, in which capacity he remained with the road until his failing health compelled his retirement in 1906. An equal to his record as an engineer is seldom met with, not an accident marring his thirty-five years of service. In his death Austin lost an old and respected citizen, our country a valiant soldier of the Civil war, the railroad a trusted and tried

engineer, and his family a loving husband and father. In politics he was an adherent of the Democratic party. He was a prominent Mason, a Templar, and a member of the Eastern Star order for seventeen years, and was also associated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the B. of L. E. March 4, 1874, he was married to Elizabeth Furtney, daughter of Joseph and Charlotte (Hilker) Furtney, of Austin, the father a farmer. He died March 12, 1903, at the age of eighty-three years, and the mother, September 22, 1903, at the age of eighty-one. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Mattice are as follows: Oscar A., an engineer on the Hastings & Dakota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, located at Aberdeen, S. D., a Knight Templar and Shriner and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen; Lydia L., wife of Harry Van Pelt, of Missoula, Mont.; Albert J., living at home, a brakeman on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the order of Owls, and the B. R. T.; Clarence W., living at home, a callboy in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad; and Helen G., also living at home. The family attend worship at the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Mattice is a member of the order of the Eastern Star, the W. R. C., the Degree of Honor, and the G. I. A. Alston F. and Sally A. (Garrison) Mattice, parents of our subject, were natives of New York, later coming to Milwaukee, where the father was engaged as a commission merchant, continuing in the same line after their removal to Waterloo, Wis. In 1883 they migrated to Clark, S. D., where the father died, April 25, 1902, at the age of eighty-seven years. The mother passed away, February 15, 1904, aged ninety-two years.

William H. Miller, deceased, was for some years a substantial farmer at Willmar, Minn. He was born in Canada in 1839, and was left an orphan at the age of thirteen years. He came to the States with relatives, and located near Minneapolis, where as a young man he engaged in various work, after which he became a farmer in Willmar. Later he located on a farm in Lansing township, and died a year later. He was a man of sturdy character, and his dealings were upright in every particular. In 1886 he united with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Miller was married to Mary A. Chadwick, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Morris) Chadwick, natives of England, who came to America with a colony and settled in the town of Bloomington, in Hennepin county, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were blessed with seven children: Frederick E., William (deceased), Allen, Herbert, Louis, Clara M., and George H. Herbert married Hattie Young. Mrs. Miller conducts the homestead of 160 acres, and is assisted in the work by her sons.

Joseph Mayer, an estimable citizen living in Austin, was born in Germany, Kingdom of Wertenberg, in 1835, son of Florian and Magdaline Mayer, both natives of Germany. The subject of this sketch came to America in 1869, landing at Castle Garden, New York, August 26, of that year. He came directly to Austin with his family and has since been a resident of this city, working for the railroad seven years, and being engaged in various labor the remainder of the time. He married Magdaline, daughter of Michael and Magdaline (Shaub) Effinger, and to this union have been born six children: Michael, John, Mary, Theresa, Susan and Joseph. Michael, Theresa, Joseph and Susan, the latter of whom is now Mrs. Adolph Glassel, live in Austin. John lives in Kansas City, Mo., and Mary, who is now Mrs. Fred Bradbury, lives in Oakland, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Mayer and their daughter Theresa make their home at 1405 East Water street, where they have lived since 1888.

August Mulbrad, a retired farmer now living in Austin, was born in Germany, and came to this country in 1859, settling in Dodge county, Wisconsin. In 1864 he went to Geneva, in Freeborn county, and after about three years there returned to Dodge county, Wisconsin. In 1871 he came to Mower county, and settled in Windom township. He there became a substantial resident and served a number of years on the school board of his district. In 1897 he retired and moved to Austin, where he has since resided. Mr. Mulbrad married Mary Jane Williams, a native of Connecticut, and to this union have been born four children: Alice A., Jay E., George A. and Herbert V. Alice A. married Lee Lewis and they have one child, Marion. Jay E. married Annelia Stern and has four children, Ethel M. Helen A., Everette Jay and Herbert W. George married Frances Newton and has two children, Genevieve A. and Myrtle R. Herbert V. married Maude J. Beckwith.

Frank Howell McCulloch, commercial printer, born at Shabbona, Ill., August 5, 1862, son of Harrison G. and Mary P. (Ketcham) McCulloch; educated in De Kalb, Ill., high school until fourteen years of age. Learned printing trade at Rochelle, Ill., and worked at it in different parts of Iowa; editor of Scranton (Iowa) Journal, 1881; established a commercial printing house in Albert Lea, Minn., 1890; located in Austin, 1892, and established the F. H. McCulloch Printing Company, contracting printers and publishers, which company was incorporated November 1, 1908, and of which he is president and manager. Member of Austin Commercial Club, Woodmen, Court of Honor and Odd Fellows. Married in Scranton, Iowa, to Miss Luella Goodyear in 1882.

Andrew Moonan, the genial and courteous proprietor of the

American House, Austin, was born in Drougheda, County Loud, Ireland, in 1840. He came to America in 1862, and after staying four months in New York city he moved to Providence, R. I., where he conducted a livery and sales stable. In 1865 he came West and purchased a claim at Sauk Rapids, Minn., which he still retains. He also purchased a farm at Waseca county, which he conducted for two years, after which he sold out, came to Austin and for four years was engaged with Colonel Mansfield. Then he purchased the American House, where he still resides. The subject of this sketch was married to Bridget Twill, February 2, 1875, at Chatfield, Minn. To them were born ten children, seven of whom are living.

Hugh R. Mills, chairman of the town board of Windom, is a progressive farmer of the township, and cultivates 128 acres of good land in section thirty, where he has a pleasant home and suitable outbuildings. The subject of this sketch was born July 6, 1864, in the township where he now resides, son of Hugh D. and Abbie (Sargent) Mills, the pioneers. He was reared on the home farm and there lived until February, 1887, when he moved to Wallace county, Kansas, and homesteaded a claim, remaining there nine years, and experiencing something of pioneer life, as did his parents before him. In 1896 he returned to Mower county and has since farmed in Windom. He is an independent voter, a member of the United Workmen at Rose Creek. Mr. Mills was married March 2, 1897, to Julia Bunker, daughter of Albert and Serena (Thompson) Bunker, and their only child died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Mills are noted for their hospitality and good cheer, and delight in keeping open house for their friends.

Hugh D. Mills, pioneer, was born in Delaware county, New York, February 12, 1831, and was reared to manhood in his native state, attending school and working for his parents. At the age of seventeen he purchased his time and left home, but returned to the parental roof in 1851, at the request of his mother after the death of his sister. In the fall of that year he started west, and after farming in Defiance, Ohio, for a while, worked in Fayette county, Iowa. He visited Mower county in 1855, went back to Iowa and clerked in a hotel in West Union that winter, and in March, 1856, came to Mower county and pre-empted the northwest quarter of section twenty-nine, in Windom township. He proved up his claim, worked about for a time, and in March, 1860, married Abbie A. Sargent, born in Marshfield, Washington county, Vermont. At the time of his marriage he located in section sixteen, Lansing township, but about four years later took up his residence on his claim in Windom. He built a log cabin, and therein resided until 1882, when he erected a brick veneer house, at that time the only one of its kind in the township. This was

his home at the time of his death, in June, 1884. His wife is now living in Austin. They had eight children, three of whom are dead. Edwin G. lives in Austin; Eliza A. married Elijah Bosserman, of Wallace county, Kansas; Hugh R. lives in Windom township; Jenette is the wife of T. G. Bailey, of Seattle, Wash. Charles farms in Windom township. The members of the family are well regarded in the various communities wherein they have taken up their residences.

Lynds S. Mitchell, for many years a blacksmith in Austin, came here after the war, and was married in 1870 to Minnie Fitzsimmons, daughter of Patrick and Huldy (Hoffman) Fitzsimmons, and to this union were born three children: Elizabeth, Ida and Lulu. Elizabeth is now Mrs. Aultfather, and they have one child, David H. Ida is the widow of T. Myatt and has one child, Lela D. Lulu is now Mrs. Walter Hill. Mr. Mitchell died in December, 1901. It is worthy of note that Mrs. Mitchell has lived in the same pleasant home where she now resides for forty-one years.

Patrick Fitzsimmons was born in Ireland, and after coming to this country married Huldy Hoffman, who was born in Utica, N. Y. He farmed for many years in Woodstock, Ill., and then came to Freeborn county, where he took up a claim and remained until his death in 1863. He and his wife had six children: Charles (deceased), Lorilla, Katherine, Richard (deceased), Helen and Minnie. The latter, who is now Mrs. Lynds S. Mitchell, of Austin, was born in Woodstock, Ill., came with her parents to Freeborn county when six years of age, and was married in 1870.

J. A. Mitchell, merchant of Taopi, is one of the most enthusiastic workers in the upbuilding of the village, and has shown his faith in the future of the place by his business and real estate investments. He was born in Marion, Marion county, Ohio, December 11, 1857, son of John and Mary A. (Hammond) Mitchell, going with them at the age of one year, in 1858, to Clinton, Ill., where he received his education and grew to manhood, after which he took up farming in DeWitt county, Illinois. There he followed agricultural pursuits until 1900, when he moved to Eagle Grove, Iowa, where he followed farming for five years, after which he came to Taopi, and continued farming. In 1907 he erected a modern store block in the village of Taopi, which he rented for two years. Then he bought the stock and goods, and became proprietor of the store which he now successfully conducts, carrying a large stock of the goods usually found in a general store of this kind. While in Illinois, Mr. Mitchell served as assessor of his town, and also held several minor offices. He is a member of the Christian church, of which he has served as clerk and elder for many years, and of which he

has served as Sunday school superintendent constantly for fifteen years. He is a Democrat in politics, and affiliates with the M. W. A. Mr. Mitchell was married October 26, 1880, to Mary B. Butterworth, and seven children have blessed this union: Ezra, Irvin, Charles, Bessie, John, William Ray and Ina.

James D. McCormick, a courteous and highly efficient conductor on the Iowa & Minnesota division of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, was born in Edgerton, Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1856, son of Thomas and Mary (Malley) McCormick, the father and mother both being natives of Ireland. James D. passed his early life at home, and in 1873 came to Austin, and clerked in the old American house for a time. Then he took up railroading. His attention to work, his honesty and his efficiency won him gradual promotion through the various grades of service until he attained his present honorable position. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors. The subject of this sketch was married in 1880 to Sarah M. Smith, daughter of Matthew and Sarah (O'Brien) Smith, early settlers of Rock county, Wisconsin, who had five children: Mary, now Mrs. Edward Ford; Matthew, living in Dakota; Patrick, deceased; Catherine, now Mrs. Andrew Cullen, and Sarah, now Mrs. J. D. McCormick.

D. A. McKee, manager of the South elevator at Racine village, was born in Pleasant Valley township, June 4, 1867, son of James and Frances A. Hall McKee. After finishing school he pursued the occupation of well driller for seven years, after which he assumed his present position. He has worked in this capacity thirteen years, and is a shrewd business man and an excellent judge not only of harvested grain, but also of crop conditions. During the Spanish-American war Mr. McKee served in Co. F, 12th Regiment, Minn. Vol. Inf. He is well thought of in the village, and being of a sociable nature he has allied himself with the A. F. & A. M., the B. A. Y. and the I. O. O. F. The subject of this sketch married Sarah Schwartz, and they have one child, Melda.

James McKee, an estimable citizen of Pleasant Valley, in which township he lived from the close of the Civil war until 1884, when he moved to Spring Valley, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he lived until his death, in November, 1910. He was born in Ireland, came to America, lived in New York city three years, and then settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, from which locality he enlisted in the Civil war, serving three years, and accompanying Sherman on his famous march to the sea.

Edgar J. Markham, president of the village council of Wal-
tham, was born in Beaver Dam, Wis., December 1, 1857, son of Walter and Lucelia (Buck) Markham, the former of whom was



MR. AND MRS. LORENZO MOTT.

born in Onondaga, N. Y.; came west about 1840, and lived near Chicago a time before settling in Beaver Dam, Wis.; raised his family in Wisconsin, returned to New York for four years, and then took up his residence in Waltham, this county, where he died in 1885. Edgar worked on the home farm until 1885, when he went into business for himself selling farm machinery, in which vocation he continued some three or four years, afterward selling harvester machinery on the road for a similar period. Still later he bought grain for a line of elevators, and subsequently purchased and rebuilt the elevator at Waltham village, which he now conducts. He is a member of the Masonic order and also affiliates with the Modern Woodmen. Before becoming mayor of Waltham, he was chairman of the township and also a justice of the peace. The subject of this sketch married Harriet Soules, daughter of Martin W. Soules, and this union has been blessed with three children: William F., Clarence E. and Carrie E.

Lorenzo Mott, farmer of Red Rock township, was born in Vergil, Courtland county, New York, December 5, 1841, son of Henry and Sarah (Overton) Mott, both of English descent. In 1856 the family located in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, and six years later in Olmstead county, Minnesota, where Henry Mott died in 1867. Lorenzo then continued to manage the home farm, which in the meantime he had purchased, until 1875, when he took his family and household goods and went to Oregon and California, with the intention of locating permanently in the west. That following year, however, he returned and settled on sections 20, 21 and 29, where he still resides, and where he has taken an important part in the life of the community, serving at different times in various public offices. He married Sarah D., born in Elmira, Chenango county, New York, daughter of Timothy and Deborah (Wisner) Brockway, of English descent. The children of this union are Grant, Lyman A., Edwin, Orren, Clara A., Bertha E. and Minnie. Clara A. married William Rugg, and they have three children: Albert, Donald and Everett. Grant married Gertrude Trump and they have three children: Clara F., Eunice F. and R. Galen. Henry and Sarah (Overton) Mott joined the Methodist Episcopal church in early life and continued earnest workers in that denomination until their death.

Mr. Mott served on the town board several years, and on the school board for over a quarter of a century. He owned at one time over 800 acres in Mower county, twenty-four acres being a fine fruit orchard. His farm now consists of 280 acres. In 1893 he erected one of the largest barns in his township, its ground measurements being 100 x 34 feet. He is a breeder of Red Poll and Durham cattle and his sheep are Shropshire and Oxford. He has also given a great deal of attention to the breeding of fine

draft horses of the full blooded registered Belgium breed, now owning some twenty of these animals. In addition to his Mower county land, he owns city property on the Gulf of Mexico at Corpus Christi, Texas.

Philip Martin, retired farmer of Waltham, came to Mower county in 1882. He was born in Prussia, Germany, December 26, 1834, son of Frank and Mary (Fuchs) Martin, who came to America in 1849 and located in Washington county, Wisconsin, where they farmed until 1864, when they came to Olmsted county and continued farming, the father dying in 1874 and the mother one year later. Philip received his earlier education in Prussia, Germany, and in 1849 came to America with his parents, locating with them in Wisconsin, and moving with them to Minnesota. In 1864 he purchased a small farm in Olmsted county, and there remained until 1882, when he came to Mower county and located on 240 acres which he purchased in section 16, Sargent township. This he improved and increased until he owned 480 acres of rich, well-cultivated land. In 1901 he retired, purchased lots in Waltham village, erected a comfortable home and has since resided here, enjoying a well deserved rest after a life filled with busy toil. He was married February 14, 1856, to Christina Fuchs, and to this union seven children have been born: Margaret is now Mrs. Thomas Graham, of Rochester, Minn.; Carolina is now Mrs. Henry Grimm, of Sargent; Louisa is now Mrs. Joseph Graham, of Rochester, Minn.; Mary lives at home; Emma is now Mrs. George Boliou, of Waltham village; Frank and Jacob live in Sargent township. Mr. Martin is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Lutheran church.

Ralph S. Mitchell, M. D., chairman of the board of health of Grand Meadow, is well known in both village and township, and enjoys a large practice. He was born in Eden Prairie, Hennepin county, Minnesota, April 28, 1874, son of Alexander and Sarah J. (Dean) Mitchell. He was reared in his native village, there attended school, and later entered Hamline University, graduating from the medical department with the degree of M. D. in 1903. The following year he was employed as house surgeon at Asbury hospital, Minneapolis, and thus equipped with training and skill, came to Mower county the following year and opened his present office in Grand Meadow. Being thoroughly ethical in his practice, he has allied himself with the American, Minnesota State and Mower County medical associations, and he also belongs to the B. A. Y. and the M. W. A. Dr. Mitchell was married January 25, 1905, to Mabel H. Lucas, a sister of the well-known lumber dealer and daughter of John and Margaret (Hill) Lucas, of Eden Prairie, Minn. This union has been blessed with one daughter, Barbara F., born February 23, 1906. Alexander and Sarah J. (Dean)

Mitchell, parents of Dr. R. S. Mitchell, are of Scotch-Irish extraction. They were married in Shakopee, Scott county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming in Hennepin county for many years. Alexander Mitchell died December 25, 1899, and his wife is still on the old homestead.

Milton A. Morse, of the firm of Morse Brothers, grocers, of LeRoy, was born on the old homestead in LeRoy township, January 4, 1880, son of Samuel and Julia A. (Bacon) Morse, the pioneers, and grandson of Elihu and Mary (Stoddard) Morse, the first settlers in the northern part of LeRoy township. Milton A. received his education in the district schools of LeRoy township, and farmed with his parents until June 17, 1909, at which time he came to LeRoy village, and with his brother, Melvin, purchased the grocery business of Roy Smart. In this business the brothers are still engaged, carrying a large stock of staple groceries and crockery. Milton A. was married April 10, 1910, to Nannie Blackmer, daughter of J. R. Blackmer, of LeRoy. Mr. Morse is a member of the Masonic order.

Joseph L. Mitchell, a prominent banker of Austin, is actively identified with a number of the city's leading enterprises and organizations. He was born in Aurora township, Steele county, June 21, 1865; received his education in the public schools of Aurora township, and graduated from the Owatonna high school in 1882. As a youth he worked in his father's furniture store a year, and later entered the First National Bank of Owatonna as clerk and bookkeeper for a period of four years. Then he was bookkeeper for the National Bank of Commerce, at Minneapolis, for nearly three years. In 1890 he came to Austin, and was made director and assistant cashier of the Austin National Bank. He continued in this position with much efficiency for a short time, and was then promoted to cashier. In this capacity he proved no less capable, and in January, 1909, he was chosen to his present position as vice president of the institution. Mr. Mitchell is a Republican in politics; treasurer of city of Austin; director and treasurer of the Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company; secretary of the Austin Cement Stone & Tile Company; treasurer of the Mower County Abstract Company; director in the Waltham State Bank, of Waltham, Minn.; secretary of the Austin and Mower County Automobile Club; member of the Austin Commercial Club, of the Maccabees and the A. O. U. W., and a thirty-second degree Mason. The subject of this sketch was married September 15, 1891, at Austin, to Ethel M. Davidson, daughter of Charles H. Davidson, of this place. This union has been blessed with one daughter, Margaret, born September 8, 1893, and now a student in the Austin high school. The family religion is that of the Methodist church. Henry H. and Mary L.

(Goodnow) Mitchell, parents of Joseph L. Mitchell, were natives respectively of Indiana and Ohio. They located in Aurora township, Steele county, this state, about 1863, and engaged in farming until 1873, when they moved to Owatonna, where Henry H. opened a furniture store. Later he removed to Aldrich, Mo., where he still lives, engaged in farming.

W. J. McEldoon, who has lived in Udolpho township for over thirty-five years, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, May 4, 1856, son of Nicholas and Isabell (Orr) McEldoon, the former of whom was in early life a sailor and in later life owned a farm on which the state capitol at Madison now stands. W. J. came to Mason City, Iowa, in 1869, and worked on the railroad for several years. He dates his residence in Udolpho from 1874. Mr. McEldoon married Ella Manchester, daughter of Carlos and Lydia (Gleason) Manchester, the former of whom was a native of New York. The McEldoon home has been gladdened by the arrival of six children: John C., Robert E., Earle L., Lloyd R., Eugene C. and May H.

Nicholas NicholSEN, the plucky and faithful sheriff of Mower county, was born in New York city, February 25, 1868, son of Nicholas and Johanna M. (Olson) NicholSEN. He was brought to Austin by his parents in 1870, and here received his education. After leaving school he farmed for a while, clerked in a store, and then was appointed deputy sheriff, serving seven years. In 1904 he was elected sheriff, and has since been successively re-elected. He also has the honor of being the senior major in the Second Regiment, Minnesota National Guards, and has won for himself the praise of the business men of Austin for his work as chairman of the membership committee of the Austin Commercial Club. The Germania-Harmonica Society claims him as an energetic member and he is as well a high degree Mason and Odd Fellow, in addition to being a member of the B. P. O. E., the K. of P., the F. O. E., the M. W. A. and the Sons of Norway. He is a past president of the State National Guard Association and member of the Spanish-American War Veterans. Nicholas NicholSEN, Sr., and Johanna M. Olson, his wife, parents of Sheriff Nicholas NicholSEN, were natives of Norway. They came to America in 1866, lived in New York until 1870, and then came to Austin, where Nicholas, Sr., was for many years a furniture dealer. He died in 1876, and his widow passed away many years afterward, in 1908.

Theodore E. Nelson, the modern and progressive merchant of Corning village, was born in Austin township, March 1, 1868, on the farm known as the old Wallace place. Theodore E. was three years old when his family moved to Lansing township. He attended school in district 72, and remained at home until twenty-

four years of age, at which time he went to North Dakota, spent a time on a farm, and one winter in the woods. He then moved to South Dakota, and was there nine years. In 1892 he came back to Lansing, and opened a store in the village of Corning, which he is now successfully conducting. Mr. Nelson is a Republican in politics, and at the time of leaving Blooming Valley, S. D., had served four years as township treasurer. He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch married Irene Egtvet, and they have one bright son, Elester, now seven years of age.

Mike Neus, farmer of Marshall township, was born in Adams township, Mower county, January 8, 1876, son of Andrew Neus, who came to America in 1866 and took an 80-acre homestead in Mower county. Mike Neus was educated in the Mower county public schools and at the age of twenty-four started in life for himself. He rented land near Lyle and then for three years conducted the old homestead which he inherited. In the winter of 1910 he sold his farm, and now leases the Sam. Lepley farm of 120 acres, awaiting an advantageous opportunity to purchase a farm of his own. He is a member of the Lutheran church, votes the Republican ticket and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. In 1900 he married Jennie Show, daughter of H. J. Show, and they have six children: Burnie, Harriett, Fernie, Elmer, Ina and Vida, the three oldest being pupils in the public schools.

Robert Sabin Noyes was born July 11, 1873, in Hamilton county, Iowa, son of Sabin and Calista (Riley) Noyes, the former of whom died in 1875 and the latter in 1897, in Webster City, Iowa, to which place they came from Wisconsin. Robert S. was married November 22, 1899, to Ida Oslund, whose parents were natives of Sweden. Mrs. R. S. Noyes was born February 8, 1878, and her childhood was spent on a farm near Stratford, Iowa. She has borne Robert Sabin Noyes five children: Zola C., Erma A., Helen C., Darwin R. and Carl A. The family moved to Dexter in this county in 1906 on a farm, and in 1909 Mr. Noyes engaged in the hardware, harness and furniture business. In 1910 he sold out and purchased a 120-acre farm west of Dexter.

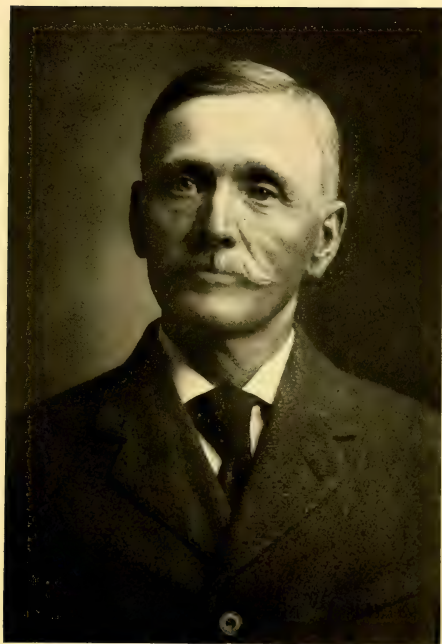
John Olsen, foreman for the Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company, of Lyle, was born in Norway, January 30, 1870, son of John and Marie Olsen, who came to America in 1873, and located in Chicago for four years. Then they came to Mower county and here the father engaged as a carpenter and contractor, a business he followed until his death, in 1876, his wife being still alive and making her home with her son. At the age of eleven years John Olson, the subject of this sketch, left home, and worked on a farm. This he continued until he was sixteen, and then worked four years on the railroad. In 1898 he engaged in the restaurant

business and continued some five years. He is now giving excellent service as foreman of the Lyle plant of the Lyle Corrugated Culvert Company. He has been a member of the village council for three years. He is single, a Republican, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and an attendant of the Lutheran church.

John Opsall, one of the prominent Norwegian-Americans of the county, came to Minnesota as a boy of sixteen, and has since taken an active interest in its growth and development. He was born in Norway in 1855, his father being Hans Opsall and his mother Julia Olson. He came to America with his mother in 1869, and joined the father who a year previous had located in Grant county, Wisconsin. In 1871 they came to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county. John, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm, and in 1878 started out in life for himself by purchasing his present farm of 160 acres in Lansing township, this county. In addition to this he owns five acres across the line in Freeborn county. His farming operations, which are conducted along the latest approved lines, have been most successful, and he is regarded as one of the well-to-do men of the county. He belongs to Mason Lodge and to the A. O. U. W. Mr. Opsall was united in marriage many years ago to Mary Anderson, a native of Norway. This union has been blessed with two children. They are Harry M., at home, and Lena M. Lena M. is now the wife of L. C. Berry and lives in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have three children: Marcus, Lewis J. and Otto.

John D. Olson, now deceased, one of the sturdy old pioneers of Mower county, was born in Norway, in December, 1836. In 1845 he came to America, and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1855. He then came to Mower county, making the trip overland by ox team, his brothers, Ragnald and Stephen, and his sister, Lena, and parents accompanying him. He settled in section 12, Adams township, gradually broke and developed the land and carried on general farming, making a specialty of grain raising and stock breeding. Mr. Olson was well liked. He died October 25, 1895, and his death was the cause of much sincere mourning. The subject of this sketch was married May 28, 1866, to Ida Gurina Johnson, daughter of J. C. Johnson, and this union has been blessed with nine children: Junetta, Steffina, Bertha, Emma—these four are living. Five died in youth. Junetta is the wife of Ben S. Knutson; Bertha is the wife of Peter Erickson; Emma is the wife of Knute Gordon; Steffina is the wife of Ed. Lunde. Mrs. Olson has lived in the village of Adams eight years. Her memory of the events transpiring in the early days is very clear, and she is an earnest advocate of the preservation of the early records.

Knut K. Ostegaard has lived in Mower county since 1864, and



JOHN OPSALL.

in the village of Grand Meadow since 1902. He was born in Norway, December 28, 1828; received his education in the schools of Norway, and there grew to manhood, leaving his native land for America at the age of thirty-three, in 1861. He first located in Wisconsin for a time, and then, in 1864, came to Mower county, where he purchased eighty acres in Grand Meadow township and twenty acres of timber land in Frankford township. Five years later he purchased eighty acres adjoining his original purchase, thus making a farm of 160 acres. This land he broke and improved, erected the necessary buildings and carried on general farming. On this place he toiled and prospered until 1902, when he sold the farm and purchased a lot in Grand Meadow village, on which he erected a pleasant residence, in which he and his good wife now live, enjoying the fruits of their early toil and hardships. Mr. Ostegaard was married August 23, 1867, to Olena Johnson, a native of Norway, who was born September 10, 1835, and came to America in 1866. They are the parents of three children: John lives in Grand Meadow; Anna lives in Frankford township and is now Mrs. Iver Peterson; Ole is a carpenter and contractor in Minneapolis.

Andrew M. Olson, whose farm is in the immediate vicinity of the village of Brownsdale, was born in Sweden, April 16, 1861, son of Olaf and Kyersten (Anderson) Larson. He came to America in 1888, and in the same year located in Austin, remaining five months. After this he worked six years in Brownsdale, and then farmed a similar period for Charles Gage. In 1899 he purchased a farm in Red Rock township near Brownsdale, and in 1900 moved onto the place. He has the 160 acres under good cultivation, has a substantial home and large outbuildings in which the cattle and crops are well housed. Mr. Olson was on the school board in 1903 and he has allied himself with the M. W. A. and the B. A. Y. He married Hilda M. Sodergren, daughter of Charles and Lena (Peterson) Sodergren, and this union has resulted in five children: Alvin A., Walter S., Edna M., Russell F. and Helen C.

Ole T. Odden, retired farmer of Grand Meadow, was born in Norway, October 10, 1835, son of Torgrim Anderson and Segrie Halverson, his wife, who came from Norway to America in 1870, and located in Lansing township, this county, later moving over the line into Moscow, Freeborn county, remaining there until their death. Ole T. received his education in Norway, and came to America in 1867, locating in Frankford township, this county, where he purchased eighty acres of land, which he improved and developed. In 1906 he sold this farm, then bought it back again, and then disposed of it permanently. In the fall of 1910 he took up his abode in Grand Meadow. He still owns 160 acres in

Frankford township, which he rents. While living on his farm Mr. Odden served seven years as justice of the peace. He was married in September, 1859, to Ingeberg Severson, and this union has been brightened with seven children: Torggrim lives in Wadena county, Minnesota; Sever lives in Staples, Todd county, Minnesota; Halvor is a furniture dealer in Grand Meadow; Anton is janitor of Grand Meadow high school; John and Simon died of diphtheria in 1877; Emma C. is at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. The brothers and sisters of Ole T. Odden are as follows, he being the oldest: Anders, killed at Murfreesboro, January 1, 1864; Carolina, of Norway; Halvor, farmer of Freeborn county, town of Mosco; Sarah, the wife of Lewis Quam, of Elmore, Minn.; Simon, of Freeborn county; Bertha, wife of George Baudler, of Austin, and Christopher, deceased.

Halvor Odden, furniture dealer and funeral director of Grand Meadow, was born in Norway, February 13, 1865, son of Ole T. Odden. He came to America with his parents in 1867, was reared to manhood in Frankford township, and remained on the home farm until the age of twenty-three, when he started clerking in a general store in Spring Valley, remaining there from 1888 to 1891. In the latter year he came to Grand Meadow, worked in a general store several years and in 1906 bought out N. P. Stenshold, and engaged in the furniture and undertaking business. He was married September 25, 1895, to Anna Maria Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Anderson.

George Pick, a farmer living in Brownsdale village, was born in Leicestershire, England, March 19, 1839, son of William and Ann (Johnson) Pick, and married Emma Beer, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Hill) Beer, of London, England. George Pick and his wife came to America in 1864, and located on a farm in Fillmore county. In 1868 they came to Waltham township and purchased a farm in section 36. In 1908 Mr. Pick moved to the village of Brownsdale, and has since made his home here, although he still operates his farm, being assisted in his work by his son, Fay. Mr. Pick takes an interest in public affairs, and in addition to serving on the town board at various times was clerk of the school board of his district for twenty years. In the Pick family there were five children: Jennie, William, Lydia, Arthur and Fay. Jennie married Thomas Johnson, of Waltham, Minn., and they have five children: Mabel, Vaughan, Myrtle, Ray and Rose. William O. lives in Clay county, Minnesota. He married Jennie Bull, and they have three children: Glinee, Nellie and Olive. Lydia married Jasper Hill and lives in Bruno, Pine county, Minnesota. Arthur lives in Antelope county, Nebraska. Fay married Mabel Bailly, lives in Waltham, and assists on the home farm.

Helge A. Peterson is one of the progressive farmers of the

county. He has a productive farm of 480 acres in Udolpho township, beautifully laid out and equipped with all the most modern machinery. His house, erected in 1887, is a model of beauty and comfort, and the stock is well housed in commodious quarters, while there are in addition numerous buildings for the shelter of crops and machinery. Mr. Peterson also owns land in other parts of Minnesota. Although these extensive holdings entail much labor and care on his part, he has nevertheless found time to take an active part in public affairs, and he has been chairman of the board of supervisors of the township for twenty years, as well as treasurer of his school district for many terms, and treasurer of the Lutheran church congregation for eighteen years. He was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, December 28, 1852, son of Asleek Peterson, who came from the old country to America in 1845 and settled in Spring Valley, Rock county, where he lived until his death. In 1875 Helge A. Peterson married Betsy T. Knudson Berg, who died July 9, 1876, leaving one daughter, Betsy, who is wife of Ole H. Kanudtson, and lives in Wisconsin. In 1882 Helge A. left Wisconsin and came to Udolpho township, where he purchased his present farm. His wife, whose maiden name was Helena O. Lewis, was a daughter of Ole Lewis, who served in the Civil war, and died at Chattanooga, Tenn., of sickness contracted in the army. This union has been blessed with nine children: Samuel Arthur, born June 5, 1885; Ormanzo Benhart, born October 28, 1887; Nellie Johanna, born November 26, 1889, and died May 8, 1890; Nellie Charlotte, born February 26, 1891; Charles Palmer, born January 20, 1893; Blanche Lillian, born August 21, 1895; Ralph Alexander, born February 23, 1897, died September 5, 1898; Signe Evangeline, born August 12, 1900, and Agnes Helena, born October 9, 1904. Samuel Arthur was married August 12, 1905, to Serena Anderson, and this union has been blessed with four children: Tonetta Henrietta, born October 7, 1905; Harriet Otena, born October 27, 1907; Selina Ordell, born June 11, 1909, and Erwin Chester, born November 10, 1910.

Charles Peachey has a fine farm in Lyle township, well cultivated and well set with fruit and shade trees. He was born in England, in Cambridgeshire, April 20, 1849, son of James and Charlotte (Marsh) Peachey, natives of England, who came to America in 1851 and located in Milwaukee, Wis., remaining there about two years, after which they moved to Waupun, Wis., where they remained for about four years, subsequently removing to Rice lake, Dodge county, remaining there about twenty years, still later coming to Owatonna, Steele county. Here the father died, December 28, 1908, the mother still making her home in Owatonna. Charles crossed the ocean with his parents at one and a half years of age, and received his education in the public

schools of Rice Lake, Minn. After this he worked out by the month for a period of five years, and in 1876 went to Waupun, Dodge county, Wisconsin, and engaged with Raymond brothers on a farm for one year. In 1877 he came to Mower county, and located in section 7, Lyle township, where he purchased forty acres of wild land and built a home and other buildings, breaking and developing the land. Six years later he added an adjoining forty acres, his farm now consisting of eighty acres of good land. He has set out an abundance of shade trees, giving his residence a pretty appearance, and also has over 100 apple trees. Mr. Peachey is a Republican in politics and attends the Presbyterian church. Although interested in public affairs, he has never consented to run for public office. The subject of this sketch was married March 27, 1877, to Eliza A. Marsh, who has proved an able helpmeet. She is the daughter of James and Christina (Nolden) Marsh, the former a native of Cambridgeshire, England, and the mother of Bonn, Germany. The father came to America at nineteen years of age and the mother at ten, the former locating in Milwaukee, Wis., and the latter at Waupun, in the same state. They came to Minnesota in 1888, from Dodge county, Wisconsin. Both are now living in Austin. Mrs. Peachey has served as treasurer of her school district, No. 14, for eight years, and has taken a deep interest in local, civic, literary and educational subjects.

Peter G. Peterson, successful farmer of Lansing township, and for nine years supervisor, a position he has filled with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens, was born in Clayton county, Iowa, son of Gulleck Peterson, also a farmer, who came to America from Norway in 1862. Gulleck lived in Clayton and Dodge counties, Minnesota, and Worth county, Iowa, and died in the latter county in 1877. His wife, with her three children, consisting of Peter, the subject of this sketch, and two girls, came to Lansing and located on section 18, in 1877, and Peter G. has since been a resident of this township. Six years ago he moved to section 21, where he still resides. The home farm consists of 160 acres of good land, which is doing well under careful attention. The house is comfortable, the buildings well kept, and the stock and crops well looked after. Modern tools and machinery add to the success that Mr. Peterson has achieved. In addition to his farm in section 18, he owns ten acres in section 17, in the same township, and 160 acres of good land in Richland county, North Dakota. He is a believer in education, and in addition to giving the township good service on the town board, has served faithfully for sixteen years as a member of the school board of his district. The subject of this sketch was married in 1896 to Helgine Anderson, born in Norway in 1866, daughter of Andrew Olson. She came to America with her parents in 1871 and they have since



IRA PADDEN.

lived in Lansing. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have had five children: George E., born December 15, 1896; Evin J., born August 4, 1898; Morris N., April 28, 1900; Helen Pauline, May 20, 1902; Esther Engeborg, November 5, 1904.

Ira Padden, now deceased, one of the pioneers of Windom township, in this county, was born in Scotland, and married Mary Wilson, who was born in Canada, of Scottish descent. They came to Mower county in 1856, located in Windom township, and pre-empted 160 acres. Ira Padden had about twenty acres of this land broken, when he listened to his country's call, and enlisted in Co. C, 9th Minn. Vol. Inf., serving until honorably discharged at Ft. Snelling at the close of the war. Then he returned to the farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until his death, December 17, 1865. His wife died in 1908.

Ira Padden, general superintendent of the plant of the Minnesota Farmers' Brick and Tile Company, Austin, is a native of this county, born on the southeast quarter of section 6, Windom township, son of Ira and Mary (Wilson) Padden, the pioneers. He received his education in the country schools and in the Austin high school, after which he entered the employ of the C., M. & St. P. After learning the machinists' trade, he was gradually promoted, and during the last six years of his twenty years' employment with that company acted as foreman of the shops at Austin. Subsequent to this he served eight years as state boiler inspector for the First district, and still later entered into the land and real estate business. November 26, 1909, when the Minnesota Farmers' Brick and Tile Company was organized, he became its general superintendent, and his efficient and faithful service, as well as his mechanical knowledge, has played an important part in the favor with which the output of that company has met. Mr. Padden is a Republican in politics, has done valuable service for the city of Austin as alderman from the third ward, a capacity in which he has, with the exception of two years, served since twenty-one years of age, and has also been sergeant at arms at the state capitol for the last two sessions of the legislature. He helped to organize Co. G, Second Regiment, M. N. G., and held rank from private to first lieutenant, also acting as captain two years. Mr. Padden is a member of the A. O. U. W., the M. W. A., the I. O. R. M., the K. of P., the B. P. O. E. and the Owls. He was married November 25, 1887, to Mira Streeter, and this union has resulted in three children, of whom two are living: Edith, a graduate of the Austin high school and of the University of Minnesota, is teaching in the high school at Lake City, Minn.; Elsie is a student at the Hamline University.

Frank H. Pike, a substantial farmer of Austin township, was born in Erie county, New York, September 30, 1856, son of Isiah

N. and Isabell (Rolfe) Pike, natives of New York state. He came with his parents to Wisconsin in 1875, and to Mower county in 1885. Here he purchased 160 acres of farm land, and has since carried on agricultural operations. He added sixty acres to his place by purchase, and obtained a similar area from his father, this making him a farm of 280 acres, which receives his best care and attention. He is an independent voter, and has avoided political office, although his interest in education has caused his acceptance of the office of school district 29, a position he has held with credit for nine years. The subject of this sketch was married, in Green county, Wisconsin, October 20, 1878, to Jennie DeRemer, daughter of Peter and Rose (Domey) DeRemer, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Pike have been blessed with six children, three of whom, Leslie E., Rosabel N. and Celia F., are living, and three of whom, Dellie M., Lloyd L. and Edith I., are dead. Leslie was born December 8, 1886; Rosabel N., October 9, 1893, and Celia F., September 7, 1896. Dellie M. lived from April 3, 1880, to July 4, 1889; Lloyd L. from December 30, 1888, to September 14, 1893; Edith I. from November 20, 1891, to February 18, 1894, bringing joy by their arrival and presence, and desolation by their departure and absence. The family faith is that of the Baptist church. Frank H. Pike has always been an extensive breeder of stock. At one time he bred the Polled Durham cattle. Mrs. Frank H. Pike is one of the oldest breeders of thoroughbred poultry in the township.

Isiah N. Pike was born in New York in 1832, went to Wisconsin in the spring of 1855, and was married in that fall to Isabell Rolfe, a native of Ohio. Then they went back to New York state, and lived there until the fall of 1875, when they came west to Evansville, Wis., and purchased eighty acres of land, farming until 1885, when he came to Austin township, purchased land and followed agricultural pursuits. Isiah N. Pike died September 19, 1904, and his wife makes her home with her son, Frank H., in Austin township.

Willard K. Porter, a substantial and successful business man of LeRoy, was born in the vicinity where he still resides, May 16, 1857, son of Andrew J. and Elizabeth Porter, the pioneers. Willard K. received his schooling in LeRoy, and then clerked for some five years in the LeRoy bank. His ability and popularity secured for him the position of deputy county auditor and this office he filled with credit for two years. In 1892 he assisted in the organization of the First State Bank, of LeRoy, and is now its president. This bank is one in which LeRoy takes a particular pride. It has been judiciously managed since its conception, its policy being progressive in so far as is consistent with sound financial principles, and the financial integrity of this vicinity rests to a large

extent upon the solidity of this bank. Mr. Porter, since 1885, has been a partner in the firm of Porter & Young, general dealers. This concern conducts a general store, has cloak salesmen on the road, and also buys live stock, making daily shipments to Austin and other points. Mr. Porter has had a long and varied experience in the buying and selling of live stock, and is considered an authority in this particular line. February 3, 1881, Mr. Porter married Eulalie Avery, daughter of John T. and Myra (Mitchell) Avery, and their children are Myra Beth Porter, a student at Carlton College, Northfield, Minn.; Lynn A. Porter, assistant cashier of the First State Bank of LeRoy.

Andrew J. Porter, pioneer blacksmith and first constable of LeRoy, was born in Madison, Lake county, Ohio, January 28, 1829. At the age of eight years he lost his father, and when he was twelve the family emigrated to Wisconsin, locating in Milwaukee county, where they were early settlers. An elder brother bought land and Andrew J. made his home with him until he was seventeen years of age. Then he went to Milwaukee, and learned the blacksmith trade, serving three years. Afterward he went to northern Michigan, and engaged in horseshoeing until 1856, when he started for Minnesota, making the trip over the lakes to Wauwatosa, Wis., and from there to Mower county with ox teams. He was joined by his father-in-law, E. Whitcomb, and upon arriving here claimed the southwest quarter of section 30, in the town of LeRoy. There he remained two years and then purchased the southwest quarter of section 31, where he built a large house and remained until 1864, at which time he moved to what is now known as the old town of LeRoy. There he engaged in blacksmithing with E. E. McKee. When the new town was started he bought land in the present village of LeRoy and erected a house. In company with John Curry he built the first blacksmith shop in the new village. He was first constable in the village, and was repeatedly elected to offices of trust and honor. Andrew J. Porter married Elizabeth Whitcomb, October 28, 1849, and they were the parents of six children: Anson C., Vicia A., Julia I., Willard K., Frank W. and Lizzie M., Ida and Frank dying in infancy.

James Peterson, a retired farmer living in Lyle, was born in Norway, February 16, 1844, son of Peter Johnson and Brita, his wife, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1867, locating in Mitchell county, Iowa, where they ended their days, the former in 1871 and the latter in 1898. James received his education in Norway and came to Mitchell county in 1866, locating in Union township, where he started farming on 160 acres. This he later increased to half a section, on which he conducted many improvements and carried on general farming, remaining there until 1903, when he retired and moved to Lyle village. He has served in

school and township office, and holds stock in the Otter Creek Co-operative Creamery and in the Lyle Telephone Company. He was married April 17, 1866, and twelve children have blessed this union: Bertha is the wife of Ole A. Neversate, of Mitchell county; Anna is the wife of Erik Slindee, postmaster at Adams; Julia is the wife of W. E. Brown, of Austin; Josephine is a milliner in Minneapolis; Petra is the wife of John Thorstas, of Lyle; Albert, who married Hannah Johnson, is on the old homestead; John lives in Marion, N. D.; Henry lives in the same place and is the husband of Celia Strand; Peter married Mabel Selle; Ella married Edward Hildebrand; Lillian is a school teacher, and Peter died at the age of eight years. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Henry N. Peterson, now deceased, was a respected business man of Lyle village, and his death, January 21, 1900, was sincerely mourned by the people of the vicinity. He was born in Bergen, Norway, February 27, 1859, and was brought to America by his uncle at the age of nine years. He attended school in Adams township, and in Austin farmed for a period, and then went to Minneapolis, where he worked faithfully in various lines for a number of years. In 1884, having by frugal effort saved enough money to embark in business for himself, he came to Lyle and opened a furniture store. After this he sold out, and engaged in the hardware business, but still later disposed of this, and with John Evenson opened a furniture establishment. He erected the Peterson block in the village of Lyle, and also dealt in real estate, selling building lots and purchasing large farm tracts, owning at one time 500 acres in the vicinity of Lyle. He voted the Democratic ticket; was one of the first members of the Lyle village council and served twelve years; belonged to the Masons and attended the Methodist church. He was married November 12, 1885, to Sophia Olson, daughter of Lars and Ingar (Bjornson) Olson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1868 and located in Chicago until 1873, in which year they came to Lyle and engaged in the furniture business, Lars Olson being dead, and his wife Ingar being a resident of Lyle at the good old age of eighty-nine years. Mrs. Peterson was born in Trager, Norway, March 24, 1859, and bore to her husband nine children: Cora, Nora, Conrad, Henrietta, Leonard, Phoebe, Vida, Victor and Eva. The three oldest are high school graduates, Cora and Nora being graduates also of Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn., while Conrad is studying dentistry at the University of Minnesota. Phoebe and Vida graduated from the Lyle high school in 1911. Nora is a graduate of the Valley City, N. D., normal school. Henrietta graduated from the normal school in Moorehead, Minn., in 1911.

Charles E. Pitcher, successful drayman of Austin, was born in



MR. AND MRS. H. N. PETERSON.

Waseca county, this state, August 12, 1872, son of Almon and Hannah (Conkrite) Pitcher, the former a native of Illinois and the latter of Canada. Charles was reared on the parental farm, and at the age of seventeen started out in life for himself, holding various positions, including situations with the Arlington and Grand hotels, in Austin. He is now conducting a prosperous business of his own, in light draying, having for the past twelve years held the contract for carrying the mail between the post-office and all incoming and outgoing mails. Mr. Pitcher married Lulu, the daughter of Benjamin and Abigail (Detwiler) Hilker, and they now live in a comfortable residence at 105 South First street, in Austin. The subject of this sketch has one brother, Wallace J. Pitcher; one sister, Hortense, now Mrs. Edd Englehart; one half brother, Clark Bevins; and two half sisters, Mabel and Flossy, both married.

W. H. Palmer, one of the oldest postmasters in the state, has served the public of Brownsdale since 1897, when he first received his appointment. He was born in the town of Hector, Schuyler county, New York, January 15, 1833, son of Henry and Patience (Cornell) Palmer, the former a native of Columbia county, New York, and the mother of Taunton, Mass. W. H. Palmer was taken to Ohio by his parents at the age of thirteen, and at the age of eighteen came to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he was teaching school at the outbreak of the Civil war. He continued to teach during the stirring years of 1861-63, and then in 1864 enlisted in Co. B, 43rd Wis. Vol. Inf. When he returned from the army he resumed teaching, and continued that vocation some thirty years in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. For some years W. H. Palmer has been chaplain of the Henry Rogers Post, No. 11, G. A. R. By his first wife, Julia Manchester, he had three children: Clarissa, Clarence and Julian. After her death, in 1873, he married Letitia Requa, daughter of Alexander Requa, and they have four children: Fannie, Arthur, Dora and Edith. Fannie married Rev. I. B. Wood and Edith married Frank Poston.

Homer F. Peirson, M. D., one of the physicians and surgeons of Austin, was born on the "Mile Strip," so called, in High Forest, September 11, 1867. He attended school at Grand Meadow, and later took a course in the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1891. Then he entered the Rush Medical College, in Chicago, and after graduating from that institution received the necessary hospital practice as an interne in St. Mary's Hospital, Minneapolis. He commenced the practice of medicine in Austin in 1906 and has since been actively engaged in this city, building up a large practice. He belongs to the national, state and county medical associations, and is affiliated with various Austin fraternities. Dr. Peirson was married in 1898 to

Jessie E. Allen, daughter of G. H. Allen, who for a number of years was surveyor of Mower county. Dr. and Mrs. Peirson have two children: Helen and Marion. F. M. Peirson was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, in 1834. He moved to Illinois with his parents in 1841, and later moved to Columbus, Wis. In 1854 he came to High Forest, Minn., and followed farming till 1874. Since that date until his retirement in 1895 he was engaged in the hotel business for a period of three years in Rochester, Minn., and the remainder of the time in Grand Meadow, Minn. He was married in 1860 to Catherine Keyes. Two children were born to them: Alonzo, dying in infancy, and Dr. Homer F. Peirson.

Alfred C. Page, a progressive real estate and insurance man, of Austin, is well known throughout the county and state. During the Spanish-American war he served as first lieutenant in Co. G, 12th Regt., Minn. Vol., and at the present time he is serving as regimental adjutant of the Second Regiment, Minnesota National Guards. He has been grand master of Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, A. F. and A. M.; has been eminent commander of St. Bernard Commandery, No. 13, Knights Templar, and has also been prominently identified with the B. P. O. E. His interest in the commercial progress of Austin is shown by the fact that he has joined the Commercial Club, and the confidence of his fellow citizens is well exemplified by the fact that he is now the alderman at large in the city council of Austin. Alfred C. Page was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, October 6, 1865, son of Thomas S. and Caroline M. (Abbott) Page, who between then and 1888 lived in Mitchell county, Iowa, and in Howard county, in the same state, in both of which counties Alfred C. attended school, completing his scholastic days with a course in the Cedar Valley Seminary, in Osage, Iowa, from which institution he graduated in 1886. After arriving in Austin he entered the office of Lyman D. Baird, with whom he has since been engaged. In 1890 he was admitted to the bar by examination, but he has never taken up the practice of this profession.

Peter Peterson, an extensive land owner of Marshall township, was born in 1841 in Sweden, his father bearing the same name as his own. The subject of this sketch was reared in the old country, and in 1870 came to the United States, locating in Kansas City, Mo., where he was employed at railroad work three years. Then he worked in the lumber business in Marshfield, Wis., for something over three years. In 1876 he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres in Marshall township, on which with energy and pluck he started farming. That his efforts have been crowned with success is shown by the fact that he now owns 400 acres of as good land as is found in the county. He has a fine farm, well furnished house, commodious, well equipped barns,

modern machinery and other aids to intelligent farming. Peter Peterson married Louise Carlson, and they have six children: John, at home; Alma, now Mrs. Adolf Lyndell, of Windom; Albert; Louis; Alfred and Hilda, the latter four being also at home.

Martin Pederson, a Marshall township dairyman and farmer, was born in Iowa in 1872, son of Peter and Inga Pederson, natives of Norway, who came to America in the seventies and purchased eighty acres in Fayette county, Iowa. In 1891 Martin came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres of land in section 23, Marshall township, later adding another eighty in the same section, in 1903. He has a fine farm, and keeps a herd of Shorthorn cattle. His farm is well equipped with modern machinery, and his operations have been most successful. Mr. Pederson is a Republican in politics and attends the Lutheran church. He married Julia Johnson, in Iowa, December 22, 1895.

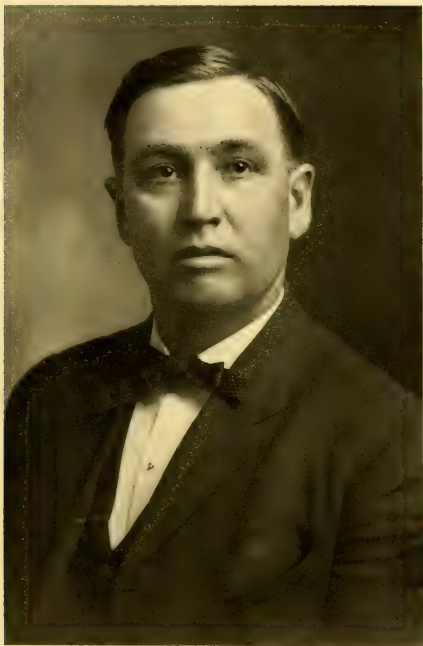
George D. Pearce, an early merchant of Dexter, and a veteran of the Civil war, now retired, was born in Gloucestershire, England, June 24, 1844, son of Daniel G. and Ann (Smith) Pearce. When he was nine years of age, he and his mother came to America, following his father who had come the year previous. They joined the father in Albany, N. Y., and there remained one year, after which they went to Chicago. After a year in Chicago, the family went to Windsor, Dane county, Wisconsin, and lived on a farm. There George D. remained until 1863, when he enlisted in the 35th Wis. Vol. Inf. and served in Co. H until mustered out at Brownsdale, Texas, in March, 1866. Mr. Pearce has many interesting stories to tell of his experiences in the Red River and Marmaduke campaigns in Arkansas, of raids up Chafalie river in Louisiana, of the capture of Mobile, Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, of the trip up the Tombigbee river and the capture of a rebel fleet, on one of the boats of which, named the Jeff Davis, Mr. Pearce returned to Mobile, and of the enforced departure from the Rio Grande of a French fleet which was there for the purpose of operating against Mexico. After his honorable discharge, Mr. Pearce returned to his father's farm in Wisconsin, and in the fall of 1868 came to Austin. In time he purchased a farm near Otranto, Iowa, and there lived until 1876, when he came to Dexter, where his father had engaged in the mercantile business two years earlier. In 1877 he purchased two stores of his father. One of these stores, which was devoted to the sale of hardware, Mr. Pearce rented to David M. Vermilea as his father had done, and in the other store he carries on business himself, selling drugs, dry goods and groceries. In May, 1897, the stores were wiped out by fire, and since then Mr. Pearce has led a retired life. He is a member of the G. A. R. and has belonged to both the

Grand Meadow and the Brownsdale posts. The subject of this sketch married Henrietta Beach, in March, 1873, and to this union was born Charles D., June 13, 1874, and Iva Murtle, October 11, 1888. Mrs. Pearce was born in East Troy, Walworth county, Wisconsin.

Daniel G. Pearce, first assessor and township clerk of Dexter township, and pioneer merchant of Dexter village, was a native of Gloucestershire, England, born December 30, 1814. In 1852 he came to America, engaged as cutter and salesman in a clothing store at Albany, N. Y., and remained two years, after which he went to Chicago, and was similarly employed eighteen months. He then went to Wisconsin, and bought wild land in the town of Windsor, Dane county. In 1869 he came to Mower county, and bought land in section 22, Dexter township. In 1874 he came to the village and engaged in the mercantile trade until 1876, when he went to Worth county, Iowa. In 1883 he returned and again engaged in trade. He married Ann Smith in 1841, and raised a family of seven children: Eliza, George, Mary, Edith, Charles, Frank and Sarah.

Charles S. Palmer, department store merchant of LeRoy, was born in the old town of LeRoy, October 10, 1868, son of Cady and Sarah (Cornwell) Palmer. The father, Cady Palmer, came from Chatham, N. Y., and with Uncle Judson was among the first settlers of the old town. Judson put in the first sawmill, and Cady Palmer built the bridge across the little Iowa river which to this day is called the Cady bridge. Charles S. was raised on the farm and attended the local schools of the neighborhood. At the age of seventeen he started clerking for Porter & Young for \$15 a month and boarded himself. In this position he remained six years, long enough for him to become thoroughly conversant with the business. Then he started in the general mercantile line for himself. His store, which is divided into departments, is one of the finest of its kind in southern Minnesota. A pleasant feature of the store is a "rest room" where the women of the county may rest, write letters or visit while their husbands are transacting business about town. Mr. Palmer is a Mason and a member of the M. W. A. He married Martha D. Jones, and they are the parents of two children: Robert E. A. and Helen. Mr. Palmer is an able business man, and in building up his own store has contributed to the commercial prosperity of the county.

James M. Plum, yardmaster for the C., M. & St. P. at Austin, was born in Iowa City, Johnson county, Iowa, July 1, 1865, son of Aaron and Harriette Plum. He received his education in the public schools, and remained on the home farm until 1882, when he became water boy on a construction train of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific road for two years. Then after another year in



JAMES M. PLUM

the service of the same road, this time as brakeman, he returned home and worked on the farm a year, after which he entered the employ of the Iowa Central as brakeman, being promoted for merit to conductor. Afterward he became yardmaster for the Great Northern at Wilmar, Minn., for eight years, and still subsequently worked a year at Marshalltown, Iowa. On August 26, 1895, he came to Austin in the employ of the C., M. & St. P. as a brakeman. In 1904 he was appointed yardmaster at Austin, which position he still faithfully fills. Mr. Plum has associated himself with the B. R. T. and the A. O. U. W. He was married January 3, 1886, to Ada Currier, of Milan, Ill., born September 2, 1870. This union has been blessed with four children: Harry, Russell, Clara and Frank. Harry was born November 9, 1887, and was killed at LeRoy, February 23, 1906. He was working as a brakeman, and was knocked from a swiftly moving train by an elevator grain spout. Russell was born August 23, 1889, and was brakeman for the C., M. & St. P., making his headquarters at Austin, and was killed at Northfield, December 13, 1910. His foot was caught in a crossing plank while cutting off cars and he was run over. Clara, born April 12, 1894, is dead. Frank was born July 31, 1895, and is still at home, being a student in the Austin high school. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

Aaron Plum was a native of Ohio and went to Iowa in the early days. He was a soldier in the Civil war, serving throughout that conflict in the 22nd Iowa Vol. Inf. After the war he returned home and continued farming until his death, in August, 1909. His wife died in March, 1907.

Gideon S. Pitts, one of the younger bankers of Mower county, is cashier of the First State Bank of Taopi. He was born in Orange City, Iowa, on July 14, 1883, where he lived until his fifth year, when his folks moved to Alton, three miles away. He graduated from the high school in Alton, Iowa, and spent the following year roughing it on a farm in Norman county, Minnesota. A two years' course at the Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, came next, after which he spent four years as bookkeeper in the Bank of Northwestern Iowa, at Alton, in which his father is interested. Tiring of office work, the following fall and winter was spent in teaming for a sawmill and lumber yard in central Washington. April 1, 1910, found him in Taopi as assistant cashier of the bank. He and his father, who has considerable real estate adjoining Taopi, bought Mr. Bourquin's interest in the bank in October and G. S. Pitts then assumed his present position as cashier. Mr. Pitts is a Republican, a member of the Masonic and Eastern Star orders and an attendant of the Congregational church. He was married to Gladys M. Christensen at Spencer, Iowa, on September 1, 1910. G. W. Pitts, his father, a New

Yorker by birth, has been practicing law and has been actively interested in several of the banks of Sioux county, Iowa, for about thirty years. He married Eliza A. Sheldon, a native of Ohio, at Excelsior, Minn., in 1880.

John Peterson, for over four decades a blacksmith of Grand Meadow village, was born in Denmark, November 22, 1842, son of Peter and Annie M. (Hanson) Nelson. John remained home as a youth, and at the age of fifteen started to learn the blacksmith trade, serving as an apprentice four years. In 1866 he came with his parents to America, and upon their arrival went with them directly to Rochester, Minn., where he followed his trade four years. In 1870 he came to the village of Grand Meadow and erected a blacksmith shop. At the time of his arrival here there were but two stores, those of D. B. Coleman, and the population consisted of about fifty people, mostly railroad men, just completing what was then the Southern Minnesota. In 1872 Mr. Peterson opened a livery stable in connection with his shop. Three years later he built a large livery barn and did a flourishing business. Mr. Peterson married A. Christenson, a native of Denmark, and they have four children: Elizabeth, wife of John Sanders, of North Dakota; Clara, Alma and Albert T. Mr. Peterson is a substantial and sturdy citizen, highly respected in the vicinity where for so many years he has made his home. A Mel Vining and a Mr. Hicks started a store a few weeks after Mr. Coleman. M. H. Fjelstad and J. Skyberg came later on.

Leland L. Quimby, metropolitan newspaper correspondent of Brownsdale, was born in La Salle, Ill., May 17, 1871, son of Enoch and Ellen A. (Lasher) Quimby. He came to Mendota, Ill., with his parents, and there remained until 1881, when he located in New Richmond, Wis., remaining there until 1891, when he removed to Brownsdale, where he published the Brownsdale Leaflet. This paper was discontinued in 1907, and since then Mr. Quimby has corresponded for various city papers. He is now interested also in the telephone business, being the owner and manager of the Brownsdale Telephone Exchange. He has associated himself with the M. W. A., in which he is a prominent member. Mr. Quimby married Emma Thompson, daughter of Luther and Adaline (Simpson) Thompson, and they are the parents of Jasper, Phillip and Joy B.

Heman B. Roe, retired farmer, has held various public offices in Lansing township, having served as assessor, supervisor and member of the school board. He was born at Chester, Ohio, son of Orson and Maria (Armstrong) Roe, pioneers. When Heman B. was but twelve years of age the family moved to Illinois, and in 1868 they moved to Mower county, and after living five years in the township of Waltham took up their abode in Lansing village.

The subject of this sketch worked about on farms, and then acquired one of his own. He still owns a fine place in the township, but does not operate it himself. Heman B. Roe married Katherine Dickerson, daughter of Joseph and Mary Jane (Stockdale) Dickerson, and they have one son, Louis D., who lives at home.

Orson Roe, the pioneer, was born in Schoharie county, New York, and married Maria Armstrong. In 1828 he moved to Ohio, and in 1853 to Illinois, dying there in 1861; after which his family moved to Mower county, Minnesota. In this family were four girls and three boys, four of these children being now alive. Philo lives in Woodstock, Ill.; Elizabeth is the wife of Wesley Scranton; Charlotte is now Mrs. John Thompson, and Heman B. lives in Lansing. Joseph and Mary Jane (Stockdale) Dickerson, parents of Mrs. Heman B. Roe, were both born in Michigan. In the early days they moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and there Katherine, now Mrs. Heman Roe, was born. Later they came to Mower county. Mrs. Roe first attended school in an old log schoolhouse in Freeborn county, and later in the schools of Cedar City and Lansing. Aside from Mrs. Roe, two of the family are living: Clarence, of Canada, and Mary Ann Hagadorn, of Bluffton, Iowa.

Thomas A. Revord, the efficient manager of the Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company, a rapidly growing concern with a promising future, was born in Austin, May 18, 1866, son of John B. and Mary N. (Bero) Revord, early pioneers. He grew to manhood in Austin and attended the Austin high school, afterward taking a course in the academy at Valparaiso, Ind. He then worked three years in the law office of Henry Johns, at St. Paul, but in 1890 returned to Austin and engaged successfully in the hardware business for sixteen years. In the year 1906, after disposing of his retail interests, he became one of the organizers, stockholders and directors of the Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company. In November of that year he was appointed to his present position. While in the retail business Mr. Revord was an active worker in the Austin Merchants' Association, and served as president of that body one year. He has also labored earnestly for the progress of the city in other ways, and for several years was secretary and vice president of the Interstate Telephone and Telegraph Company. He votes the Democratic ticket, and associates fraternally with the K. of C., the C. O. F., the A. O. U. W., the U. C. T. and the Austin Commercial Club. Mr. Revord was married November 26, 1895, at Madison, Wis., to Julia Grimm, of that place, and to this union four children have been born: Naomi, born September 18, 1896; Helen, born August 14, 1899; Ruth, born May 29, 1901, and John.

born April 5, 1906. The family faith is that of the Catholic church.

John B. Revord and Mary N. Bero, his wife, substantial old pioneers, came from their native home in Canada, in 1856, and homesteaded 160 acres in Lansing township, Mower county. They built the usual buildings and wrought many improvements, but in addition to this Mr. Revord also owned a boot and shoe and grocery store, moving into the city of Austin in 1867 and continuing the business until 1877, when he sold out and retired. He died March 30, 1896, and his wife passed away January 15, 1905.

George Robertson, auditor of Mower county, has achieved an enviable reputation as a man of public affairs, both in Austin, where he performs the duties of his county office, and in Lyle, where he was for many years prominent in municipal activities. Mr. Robertson was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, and as a youth was brought to London township, Freeborn county, this state. After leaving school he worked summers and taught school winters, until 1892, when he located in Lyle, engaging in the drug business, remaining ten years. During this time, in 1896, he became principal of the Lyle schools. At Lyle he took an active interest in village affairs, being assessor of the township seven years, president of the village board two years, postmaster of the village six years and president of the school board two years. In the fall of 1902 he yielded to the solicitation of his friends and consented to become a candidate for the auditorship of the county. He was elected by a large majority and took office the following January. He has succeeded himself every term since then, and has served with ability and distinction. An active Republican in politics, he has served on the congressional and county committees. In 1907 he was elected president of the State Auditors' Association, and was re-elected the following year. Mr. Robertson is also a member of the Royal Arcanum, the I. O. O. F., the K. of P., the Masonic order, the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the F. O. E. He was married April 3, 1883, at Austin, to Sarah Marsh, of Waupun, Wis., and this union has been blessed with five children: Burton J., postmaster and manager of the telephone company at Lyle, Minn.; Etta L., in charge of the musical department of the Pikeville Institute, at Pikeville, Ky., and Ross, Ora and Ralph, who are at home. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church and the residence is at 915 Lansing avenue.

John Robertson, retired farmer and veteran of the Civil war, now living in Austin, was born in Scotland and came to this country in early boyhood, settling in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he married Margaret Campbell, likewise of Scotch birth, who also came to this country when a child. They farmed in Wisconsin until June, 1866, when they came to Minnesota and

located in London township, Freeborn county, where they remained until 1893, when they retired and came to Austin to live. Mrs. Robertson died March 17, 1908. Their son, George Robertson, is county auditor of Mower county.

T. N. Roble, of Austin, proprietor of the Merle Cafe, was born in Mankato, Minn., August 30, 1875, son of Ignatius and Louisa (Warnemunda) Roble. He received his education in the public schools and then learned the printers' trade with the Austin Transcript. Subsequently he worked on the Journal, in St. Peter, Minn.; and then upon his return to Austin he worked a short period on the Herald. In the spring of 1893 he went to the Columbian Exposition at Chicago, and remained through the summer, working with the Rogers-Pitkin-Hall Printing Company, on Dearborn street. In the fall of the same year, after a short interim spent at his trade in Nebraska, he again returned to Austin and worked on the Herald. In 1895 he went to Springfield, Minn., and opened a lunch room. In 1897 he went to Devil's Lake, N. D., and conducted a pool room and restaurant for five years; sold out and went to Granville, N. D., and engaged in the drug business; then sold out and went to Glenburn, N. D., where he conducted a restaurant, afterwards being interested in a pool room at Noonan, N. D. In 1908 he once more took up his residence in Austin, and opened the Merle Cafe at 130 East Mill street, where he has built up a large trade and a flourishing business, combining a first class lunch room with an up-to-date and pleasant pool and billiard hall. It is worthy of note that not one of the many interests in which Mr. Roble has engaged has proven anything but a financial success. Ignatius Roble came from Germany in 1859, located in Mankato and lived there for many years, engaging in the manufacture of matches. The factory was destroyed by fire, and Ignatius Roble moved to Austin, engaging in the milling business the remainder of his life, his death dating December 8, 1893. His wife is still living and conducts her son's home at 506 Oakland avenue, Austin.

Burton J. Robertson, postmaster of Lyle and general manager of the Lyle Telephone Company, is one of those energetic young men whose presence in a village adds to its progress and development. With a young man's enthusiasm he has plunged into the business life of the community, and has made his work felt. He was born in Lyle township, May 3, 1882, son of County Auditor George Robertson. He received his early education in the district schools of his township, and graduated from the Austin high school in 1901. He clerked in a drug store for a while and then in 1902 received his appointment as postmaster, having in the meantime assumed his present position in the telephone company. Mr. Robertson is a Republican in politics and for four years has

served as a member of the school board. He is also a popular member of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Robertson was married November 11, 1903, to Bertha L. Anderson, and this union has resulted in one child, Merwyn A., born May 28, 1909.

Perry L. Reynolds, retired farmer and real estate man, now living at 601 West Oakland avenue, Austin, was born in Washington county, New York, February 28, 1847, son of Benjamin and Nancy (McDougal) Reynolds, who spent the span of their years in New York state, the father dying in 1872 and the mother in 1892. Perry L. received a good common school education, and in 1867 migrated to Branch county, Michigan, where he remained two years. In 1869 he came to Minnesota, and from then until 1904 farmed and dealt in real estate, owning at one time nearly 2,000 acres in Nevada township, this county. In 1904 he retired and has since made his home in the city of Austin, still owning land in Austin and Sargeant townships. He is a Republican and a Mason, and a member of the Christian church. Mr. Reynolds was married May 23, 1883, to Mrs. Nancy A. (Slyke) Brown, and to this union have been born two children: Harland L., an east side merchant in Austin, and Mabel, now Mrs. Harry Herman, of Austin. Mrs. Reynolds is the daughter of David D. and Sarah (Moyer) Slyke, both natives of Montgomery county, New York, where the father died in 1890 and the mother in 1888. Mrs. Reynolds was born in Montgomery county, New York, February 3, 1843, and was first married to Ozni C. Brown, who died in 1882, leaving seven children: Harry K., Millner, N. D.; Colonel W., Austin; Frank D., Nevada township; Chester C., Austin; George W., Pipestone, Minn.; Grace, now Mrs. A. B. Lovell, Austin, and Alice, deceased.

John E. Robinson, an honored and respected pioneer of Mower county, Minnesota, was born in Monroe county, New York, September 24, 1837. While in his infancy, he came to Wayne county, New York, with his parents, receiving his early education in the public schools of Newark, Wayne county, and completing his studies at the Collegiate Institute of Rochester, New York. He then read law with Attorneys L. M. Norton and S. K. Williams of Newark, being admitted to the bar at Auburn, N. Y., 1859, and immediately afterwards formed a co-partnership with his recent instructor, L. M. Norton, at Newark. In the fall of 1862 he came west, having dissolved his partnership with Mr. Norton, and located at Lansing, Mower county, Minnesota, subsequently being admitted to the Minnesota bar, but did not engage in the practice of his profession, maintaining himself by school teaching for a year. The call to arms of 1861 was then sounded and he responded by enlisting in Company B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, serving until his discharge at Fort Snelling, December 1, 1865. The

most of his service was on the frontier under General Sully, the hard, fast fighting showing the splendid metal of the Second Minnesota Cavalry. After his discharge he returned to Lansing, continuing teaching, and taking up farming in addition, having at one time over 400 acres of land in Lansing and Udolpho townships. In 1882 he removed to Austin and took charge of the Hotel Windsor for five years, subsequently purchasing another hotel, the Robinson House, which he remodeled and conducted until 1892. While a hotel proprietor he was five years agent for the Adams Express Company. He was appointed to fill out an unexpired term as justice of the peace of the First ward, in 1892, and was later elected for the twelve ensuing years. Since the expiration of this term of office he has lived retired at his beautiful home at 106 South Main street. In politics he is a temperance Republican, and has served several years as a member of the Austin board of education, in addition to his twelve years of service as justice of the peace. The Grand Army of the Republic and the Modern Woodmen of America count him a valued member. He is also a staunch upholder of the Baptist church, having been a member since eleven years of age, and a deacon and trustee of the First Baptist church of Austin for many years. December 9, 1858, he was married to Elizabeth Hutchingson of Rochester, New York. Five children have blessed this marriage: William H., born May 1, 1860, died April 17, 1879; Sarah Belle, born June 10, 1863, is now married to F. E. Gleason, a jeweler of Austin; Otis H., born May 8, 1868, died November 17, 1907; Emma L., born January 14, 1870, is now living in Minneapolis; and John F., born January 16, 1875, is president of the First National Bank of Steele, N. D., the bank of which his father is vice president. Robert and Sally (Hall) Robinson, parents of our subject, were natives of the state of New York. In 1841 the father removed to Wayne county, New York, where he followed general farming until his death, December 24, 1884. His wife followed him to the Great Beyond, December 25, 1886.

Robert O. Richards, a successful farmer of Lyle township, carries on agricultural operations in a scientific manner, and has been very successful, especially as a breeder of registered Poll Angus cattle and registered Poland-China hogs. He was born in Lewis county, New York state, April 17, 1870, son of Richard R. and Mary (Salisbury) Richards, natives of Wales. He received his primary education in the schools of his neighborhood, coming to Otranto, Iowa, with his parents in 1880. There he also attended the schools, and then remained on the Otrando Stock Farm, working for his father until the latter's death, when he continued to conduct the same farm until 1901, when he and his mother came to Mower county, where his mother purchased 120 acres of land

in section 32, Lyle township. To this Mr. Richards has added a few acres of his own. They have erected some fine buildings, brought the land to a high state of cultivation, and now have a model place in every respect. Mr. Richards is single, a Republican, a Presbyterian, and a member of the Masonic order and the M. W. A.

Richard R. Richards was born at Bala, North Wales, January 1, 1833, son of Richard Richards and Susanah Richards, Welsh farmers. He was married November 22, 1856, to Mary Salisbury. Mary Salisbury was born in North Wales, July 2, 1838, daughter of Ebenezer and Margret Salisbury, Welsh farmers. Margret Salisbury died in 1840, and in 1842 Ebenezer Salisbury came to this country. In 1846 he married Elizabeth Jones, of Deerfield, N. Y. In 1849 he was ordained to the Methodist ministry and preached until his death in 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Richards engaged in farming until coming westward in 1880, locating in Otranto, Mitchell county, Iowa, where Richard R. took up farming and stock raising on the Otranto Stock Farm, until his death in 1898. In 1901 Mrs. Richards came to Lyle and purchased land, as stated above.

Jay J. Rugg, of Austin, founder and part owner of the Austin Dairy Company, was born in Red Rock, Mower county, Minnesota, May 16, 1872, son of John D. and Barbara J. (Ticknor) Rugg. He attended the district schools of his neighborhood and the high school in Austin, remaining at home and working on the farm with his father until his marriage in 1896. He then rented a farm and worked on his own account for three years, later removing to the "Sargent Springs" place, so called, where he started the nucleus of what afterward developed into the Austin Dairy Company. Mr. Rugg improved the farm, constructed several buildings, and put the place in proper shape for an extensive dairy business. After a time he abandoned this place, and in company with F. W. Kimball and D. H. Stimson, formed the Austin Dairy Company. They commenced business on the corner of Chatham and Oakland avenue, but their business expanded and grew to such proportions that they were obliged to find more spacious quarters. Consequently they purchased their present plant on East Maple street. In addition to the usual dairy business of retailing milk and cream, they handle butter, poultry, eggs and ice cream. In 1909 they purchased the egg and cold storage plant known as the "Old Major" plant. Mr. Rugg is a popular young man, and belongs to the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen. He married Tillie Dochterman, daughter of William Dochterman, and they have four children: Merville D., Raymond P., Barbara J. and Jay J., Jr.

Henry Roberts was born in Norfolk, England, and came alone

to America at an early age. He located in Jamestown, N. Y., and married Jane Hill Locke, of Bristol, N. H., a teacher in the public schools of Fruesburg, N. Y. In the year 1855 he came to Minnesota and in March, 1856, came to Mower county, Lyle township. A year later Mrs. Roberts came west and was met at Caledonia by her husband with an ox team. Together they journeyed overland to the little home by the Cedar. Here he acquired a farm of 900 acres and farmed it for many years. Seven children were born to them, five of whom are living: Annice, now Mrs. Edward McMahn; Eunice, widow of Charles M. Rice; Benjamin (deceased), Charles A., Adelbert, Henry, Eva (deceased), wife of C. E. Lashbrook. They moved to Austin about thirty years ago. Here Mrs. Roberts died in 1897 and he is still living in the city.

Charles M. Rice, now deceased, was born near Buffalo, N. Y., a son of Andrew B. Rice. For twelve years he conducted a general store in Austin and was well and favorably known here. His death in 1897 caused general regret. Mr. Rice married Eunice L. Roberts, daughter of Henry and Jane (Locke) Roberts. Mrs. Rice taught school before her marriage, and for the last eleven years she has taught geography in the Franklin school in Austin. In pursuing her geographical studies Mrs. Rice has traveled extensively in this country and abroad.

James Z. Rogers, whose parents were one of the territorial families of Minnesota, was born in Faribault, Minn., August 5, 1873, son of Caleb E. and Mary J. (Shonts) Rogers. He received his earlier education in the public schools of Faribault and then attended the Faribault Business College, later clerking in the grocery store of A. J. Grant. Subsequently he worked a year for Grant, Linton & Co., general railroad constructors, as overseer of one of their contracts in Iowa. In January, 1900, he came to Austin and engaged in the carriage manufactory business with H. M. Hanson for one year. Then he purchased the business and operated it alone until 1906, when he took William H. Teeter as partner. In 1909 he again became sole owner, and now does a large business in making carriages and repairing automobiles. He has been chancellor and is now lecturer of the Knights of Columbus, and has also been banker of the M. W. A. He votes independently and is a member of the Catholic church. Mr. Rogers was married May 1, 1901, at Austin, to Mary C. Reilly, of this place, and to this union have been born three children: Milton F., born June 16, 1902, and Madrienne M., twins, and Erving E., born January 30, 1907. Mr. Rogers is a lineal descendant of Joseph Rogers, who came to America in the Mayflower. One of his ancestors also took part in the Revolutionary war.

Caleb E. Rogers, the pioneer, was born in Bangor, Me., came west in 1855, and located in Waterville, Minn., where he married

Mary J. Shonts, who was born in Pennsylvania, and came west in 1856, locating on Cannon Lake, near Faribault. He later located in Faribault, and there followed his trade as a carpenter until 1889, when he went to Waterville, Wash., where he still resides. His wife, who has to travel for her health, is at present located in Los Angeles, Cal.

G. M. F. Rogers, M. D., one of the leading physicians of Austin, was born in Otsego, Otsego county, New York, November 19, 1874, son of William M. and Helen M. (Martin) Rogers, who in 1879 took him to South Dakota. He was reared in Doland in that state, and there received his earlier education, graduating from the Doland high school. In 1895 he entered Hamline University, and in 1899 graduated from the medical department of that institution, which is conducted as a part of the University of Minnesota. He spent the following year as an interne in the Minneapolis City Hospital, and then practiced his profession at Rothsey, Minn., removing to Buffalo, Minn., in 1902, and remaining there until 1905. His rapidly increasing practice, his long hours, and the many demands made on his time and health impaired his strength, and for the next four years he retired from practice, but devoted his time to attending special clinics in the eye, ear, nose and throat, in Philadelphia, Chicago and New York. In 1907 he came to Austin, where he has since enjoyed a full measure of success. Dr. Rogers is a high degree Mason, a member of the M. W. A. and of the Austin Commercial Club. He was married December 17, 1902, to Nellie R. Hassinger. The family faith is that of the Methodist church.

William M. Rogers was born in New York state and there married Helen M. Martin, a native of the same state. They came west in 1878 and located for a short period near Benson, in Swift county, Minnesota. Then they went to Gary, S. D., and after a short period there, went to Doland, in the same state. When a young man, William M. was a decorator for the D. & H. R. R., but was injured by an elevator accident, and being crippled, came west and took up the mercantile business. He died at Doland, S. D., March 15, 1895, and his widow is still living.

Thomas Rochford was born in St. George, Canada, April 7, 1856. At the age of ten years he moved to this county with his parents, his education being acquired in the district schools of Austin township. Leaving school, he followed farming in Lyle township, Mower county, until 1881, when he came to Austin and engaged in the confectionery business two years, subsequently spending a summer in Valparaiso, Ind. Then returning to Minnesota, he located at Lyle village, receiving employment as clerk in the postoffice and general store, in addition conducting a boarding house. After remaining in Lyle three years, he removed to

Austin and established the pioneer express line of the city, adding the first hack line three years later, operating these for a period of eleven years, then selling out and conducting a dray line for two years. This business and equipment he traded for western land, marking his entry into the real estate business, in which he remained four years, as a co-partner in the Rochford Land Company of Austin. He traded his interest in the company for his property of seventy acres on South Kenwood avenue, it being valued at \$300 per acre, containing immense quantities of gravel and sand. Mr. Rochford is now engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of cement building material on this place. He has erected twenty-one houses in the city of Austin, five being constructed of cement blocks of his own manufacture. He has now disposed of all but four. An extensive real estate business claims much of his attention, and a large number of high-bred driving horses, of which he is a great fancier, pass through his hands. He owns one team that he values at \$2,500. All his success he owes to his untiring efforts and the assistance of his loving wife. As to political convictions, he is a Republican, but his large business interests have prevented him from seeking office. His fraternal affiliations are with the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Equitable Fraternal Union, and the Order of Owls, in which he is past president. He has served as trustee in all his lodges. He is also serving as vice president of the Catholic Total Abstinence Society of Austin. November 26, 1882, he was married to Ella Davison of Valparaiso, Ind., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Davison. They have seven living children, two others being dead. Nina (deceased), Pearl, Leo, Isa, Ora (deceased), Meda, Harold, John, and Mabel. The family attend the Catholic church. James and Pauline (La Chance) Rochford, parents of our subject, emigrated from Canada in 1866, locating in Lyle township, Mower county, Minnesota, where the father followed his trade as a carpenter until 1871. He then went to Crookston, Minn., leaving his family at Lyle township, and remained fourteen years, working at his trade. Returning to Lyle township, he lived a retired life up to the time of his death. The mother is still living at Austin.

F. G. Ray, a veteran of the Indian campaign and of the Civil war, and for many years the honored postmaster of Rose Creek, was born in Vigo county, Indiana, September 10, 1841, son of Isaac M. and Mary A. (Gordon) Ray; went with them to Moline, Ill., in 1856; to Hastings, Minn., in the spring of 1857, and in that city finished his schooling. In 1862 he became a citizen soldier and served in the Indian outbreak. In 1863 he enlisted in Company F, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served in all the campaigns and battles of the Sixteenth Army Corps under

General Thomas, being discharged at Fort Snelling in August, 1865, at the close of hostilities. He then farmed at Empire City, Dakota county, Minnesota, until 1868, when he came to Rose Creek and purchased a half section of school land in section 36, Windom township, the land being at that time partly broken. Shortly afterward he returned to Minneapolis and worked for the Northern Pacific railroad two years. In 1870 he came back to Windom township and lived on the Marshall farm with his parents until 1875, when he moved to the village of Rose Creek, and conducted a hotel from 1876 until 1893. He was postmaster four years under Harrison, was out four years under the second Cleveland administration, and was again appointed under the first McKinley administration, since which time he has served continuously, under McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft. Mr. Ray is a conservative Republican, has served as justice of the peace, was town clerk for ten years, assessor two years, and is now treasurer of the board of education of Rose Creek, as well as a notary public. He is engaged in the real estate and insurance business in addition to his duties as postmaster, and aside from his home in Rose Creek village he owns a farm of 160 acres in Windom township, which he purchased in 1887. He has been a member of the Rose Creek Congregational church since 1880, and is a deacon as well as superintendent of the Sunday school. He affiliates with the Masonic order, the G. A. R. and the Territorial Pioneer Association. The subject of this sketch was married October 31, 1893, to Elizabeth Southworth, of Michigan, who has proved an able and efficient helpmeet.

Isaac M. Ray and his wife, Mary A. Gordon, were natives, respectively, of Ohio and Virginia, the former being of English and the latter of Scottish descent. They located in Indiana in 1818, and Isaac M. Ray was there admitted to the bar, serving as police judge of Terre Haute until 1856, when the family moved to Moline, Ill., remaining until the spring of 1857, when they came to Minnesota and located in Hastings, Dakota county. He was admitted to the bar in Minnesota and was sheriff of Dakota county four years, as well as police justice at Hastings, Minn. There they remained until 1868, when they came to Rose Creek and then went on the Marshall farm for seven years. Then they moved to Rose Creek and here Isaac M. died April 14, 1876, and the mother December 9, 1899. Isaac M. Ray when about twenty years of age, was licensed to preach by the M. E. church in Vigo county, Indiana. He was also a member of the bar in Minnesota.

Orasmus D. Rhoades, an early settler of Udolpho township, who gave up his life for his country in a southern prison, was born in New York, October 27, 1817. He went as a young man to Chautauqua county, New York, and was there married to Maria

Hunter, October 6, 1844. She was born in New York city, October 19, 1825. In 1853 Orasmus D. Rhoades came west to Clinton county, Iowa, and in August, 1856, he came to Mower county and settled in section 22, township of Udolpho, where he entered land and built a house. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and went south with his regiment. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Guntown, Tenn., and was first sent to Andersonville. Later he was incarcerated at Milan, and there died of starvation, December 24, 1864. His wife lived on the old homestead, assisted by her son, Oscar J. Rhoades, until her death in 1910. In the family were six children: Oscar J.; Mary C., wife of B. M. Carll; Malina, wife of Norman Carll; Amelia J., wife of C. King; Harriett O., wife of Samuel Seavy, and Loretta E., wife of John Andrews.

Oscar J. Rhoades, a substantial farmer of Udolpho township, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, September 17, 1845, one of the six children of Orasmus D. and Maria (Hunter) Rhoades. He came to Mower county with his parents, here grew to manhood and received his education, and has since continued to reside on the home place. He is one of the few pioneers that are still living, and well remembers the time when there was only one house between his residence in Udolpho, and the present site of the packing house in Austin.

Reuben Rollings, now deceased, was born in Leicestershire, England, April 12, 1825, seventh of the eleven children of John and Lucy (Pick) Rollings, both natives of England, where John Rollings was engaged in the mercantile and commission business. Reuben received his education in the English schools, and when he grew to manhood married Jane Fisher, February 18, 1856. She was from his native place and was born May 20, 1830. Soon after their marriage they came to America and settled in Dane county, Wis., where Reuben Rollings engaged in farming until 1861, when he came to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and remained until the summer of 1867, when he moved to Waltham township, Mower county. In the fall of 1877 he came to Red Rock township, where his widow now resides, and died in September, 1906. Mr. Rollings in his life was a strong Republican and held many town offices at various times. To Mr. and Mrs. Rollings were born six children: Joseph W., Alfred F., Mary A., Amelia J., Henry J. and Emma L. Mary A. is the wife of D. A. Lamport, and they have two boys, Harold and Leonard. Amelia J. married Arthur Burnett, and they have three children: Ethel, Raymond and Marion. Henry J. lives in Fergus Falls; Emma L. is the wife of the Rev. O. F. Jones, and they have one son.

William A. Rugg was born in Red Rock township, November 26, 1877, son of J. D. and Barbra (Ticknor) Rugg, natives of

New York state, who came west in 1857 and preëmpted land in section 34, Red Rock township, erecting first a shack, and then a small frame house which stood until the present family residence was erected in 1872. In this home William A. was reared, receiving his education in the "Pioneer" school, district 41, and in the Franklin school at Austin. When he attained his majority he engaged with his father in the coal and wood business for a time and then worked as fireman on the S. M. division of the C., M. & St. P. railroad for six months, subsequently taking up farming on the old homestead, where he is now located. He married Clara Mott, daughter of Lorenzo and Sarah (Brockway) Mott, and they are the parents of three boys, Albert W., aged nine; J. Donald, aged seven, and Everett M., aged five.

Knute Rudlong, who has farmed in Adams township since 1884, was born in Valdris, Norway, in 1864, son of Arlag and Marit Rudlong, his wife deceased. Knute came to America in 1884 and located in Adams township, where he worked by the month for four years. At the end of that time he bought 120 acres and started to improve the place. He now has an excellent farm, with comfortable house, well kept barns, a suitable amount of shade trees, a windmill and modern machinery. In previous years Mr. Rudlong made a specialty of grains. He is a Republican in politics and was road overseer in the township two years. The Lutheran church expresses his religious creed and he has been trustee of the church of that denomination in Adams for three years. The subject of this sketch was married in 1888 to Rachel Olson, and this union has been blessed with one daughter, Ida, who after completing the course in Adams schools creditably, is now helping her mother at home. December 3, 1905, Mr. Rudlong paid a visit to his old home, visiting his old father, three brothers and a sister, whom he had not seen for twenty-one years. He sailed on the steamship Baltic on the White Star line.

A. O. Sundem, a venerable and honored resident of Nevada township, lives on eighty acres in section 26, and is now practically retired, having reached an age when active participation in the toil of life is not a necessity. He was born in Norway, March 28, 1825, and came to America in 1855. In Norway he was a fisherman and railroad worker. After landing in Quebec he went to Wisconsin and worked near Madison six years, mostly in the lead mines. Then he came to Mower county, purchased his present place, and until a short time ago successfully conducted farming operations thereon. He was married in 1860 and has four children: Edward, died at the age of thirty-seven years after a long illness; Anna is at home; Emelia is the wife of John Osteman of Lyle; and Christian conducts a farm near Lyle.



GEORGE H. SUTTON.

George H. Sutton, now deceased, is one of those men whose memory will ever be held foremost in the loving regard of the people of Mower county. His life was an exemplification of personal virtues and civic righteousness, and his death caused wide-felt mourning, not only in this county but throughout the state, the newspapers vying with each other in their encomiums.

Mr. Sutton was born at Plymouth, England, June 19, 1866, and died July 1, 1909. He grew to manhood amid the flowering hedges and green lanes of Old England, and at the age of eighteen years came to America with his uncle, Thomas Drew, for whom he kept books four years at Portage, Wis. He then entered the employ of the C., M. & St. P. Ry., for several years. During this period he married Margaret Gilvrey, who proved an able helpmeet in all his various lines of helpfulness. Together they moved to Chicago, and there resided until the C., M. & St. P. road disposed of its hotels and eating houses, at which time Mr. Sutton purchased the interests in the Depot hotel, at Austin, and removed here, making the hotel a favorite with the traveling public. From the first this couple made their impress on the life of the community. Their deeds of kindness and acts of charity became widely known. At once upon his arrival Mr. Sutton became interested in the municipal uplift of the city, and he believed in progress, but it was not until 1899 that he entered politics and became an alderman to fill the unexpired term of Alex Campbell, who had been elected mayor. The following year Mr. Sutton was practically unanimously elected alderman from his ward. In 1906 he was elected mayor. The following two years of his administration were years which placed Austin on a high plane of law and order. Mayor Sutton personally investigated every violation of the city ordinances. He insisted that the law be obeyed, and the severest of punishment was meted out to those who ignored his warnings. After two years of such a splendid example of law enforcement, the people reelected Mayor Sutton for another term, and one-half of that term had expired when his health began to fail. He attempted much and his nervous system did not stand the strain. April 9, 1909, he left the city for Sioux City, Iowa, to go under the care of a physician, who later sent him to a specialist in Omaha. All these efforts of love and skill were unavailing, however, and Mr. Sutton passed to the Great Beyond, July 1, 1909. The body was brought back from Omaha and rested in solemn state in the court house. The services were held from the Episcopal church and the procession of sorrowing friends and fraternal brothers which followed the remains to the grave was one of the largest in the history of Austin, in spite of the drizzling rain. Mr. Sutton was survived by his widow, three children, George F., Albert E.

and Helen C.; a mother living in England and two brothers, Albert E., of Milwaukee, and Ernest F., of Madison, S. D.

The above is a brief sketch of the life and work of an excellent man: His character and influence are admirably summed up by the Austin Daily Herald, as follows: When want and distress came, there George Sutton was to be found with succor. When death darkened a home, it was George Sutton who was the first to offer his assistance, and when the last sad rites were performed, Mayor Sutton was always to be seen among those taking the dead to their last resting place. All who knew Mr. Sutton realized the ardor, the intensity and the enthusiasm of the man. What he did, he did with his whole soul. As mayor of the city, he was more than an official, the affairs became to him personal. As president of the Chautauqua Association, he bent every energy and gave of time and effort freely that it might be a success. As a worker for the county fair he was efficient and zealous. In the Sunshine Society and the Elks' Christmas festivities he worked for the joy of the working. To the Driving Association he gave enthusiasm and push. To the school board he would have given valued service had his health not failed him on the eve of election. The ambulance fund was pushed and seconded by his efforts. And so one might continue to specify work for the public good to which he allied his name and gave of his time and money in its support. Generous almost to a fault, his own affairs and his own personal comfort were the last to receive attention. His philanthropy was a tonic to the whole city. Others refused to be mean or small when called to help out a cause led by this generous spirit. His sympathies were not bounded by the walls of creed or caste. It was to help those who needed help when they needed it most. In this he had the quality that vitalizes all religion. His heart was one of kindly impulses. To a hungry, ill-clad child he was tender as a woman. To the fatherless and widow he was a friend indeed. No matter what differences he had with men, when sickness or sorrow touched their homes, George Sutton was the first to offer help and sympathy. A sick child, an accident, poverty and distress appealed to him as to but few men. To Austin his death means the close of a life which has left its impress upon the city, and for its great personal force has but few equals. Chosen as mayor in 1906, he began his administration with absolute fearlessness and rare courage. Austin liked his way of doing things, and in 1908 all law-loving citizens clamored for his reelection. Two years of fearless administration had swept away his detractors and political enemies. As mayor he adhered to his fixed policy of doing what he thought was right. He was a man of the people and his highest ambition was to serve the best inter-



MRS. GEO. H. SUTTON

ests of all the people. Mr. Sutton had a great capacity for friendship. His friends, not passing friends, but close proven friends, were many. The same qualities which made him the true friend, made him a loving and devoted husband and father. Measuring the man from these many standpoints, he stood for square honesty, a manly man, a rugged, virile character, whose like we do not often look upon.

An editorial published in the Austin Daily Herald, October 28, 1910, spoke of Mr. Sutton as follows: "Austin will not raise a relief fund for some time to come, that the memory of George Sutton will not revive afresh. First in all good work, eager to help the needy, and relieve the suffering, counting neither time nor money against he call for aid, Austin came to depend upon him. A score of people spoke his name in reference to the fire sufferers' relief fund just raised. His influence is with us today, in the town that he loved and helped. He lives in the hearts that he enriched by his friendship, in the minds to which he taught generosity, as well as scorn for the miserable alms that ends with self. Every town needs such as he to leaven its lump of selfishness. What he did is a precedent which we shall remember in times of need."

Burt E. Stimson, a retired farmer and veteran of the Civil war, now living in Austin, was born in Damby, Vt., October 21, 1844, son of Charles N. and Harriett A. (Pratt) Stimson, who brought him to Udolpho township, this county, in 1856. Here he received his early education, and was reared on a farm. Joining the Union army in 1864 and serving in Company K, Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, until the fall of 1865, when the regiment was mustered out at Demopolis, Ala., and discharged at Fort Snelling. He took part in the battles of Nashville, Spanish Forts and Fort Blakely, and was on the march to Montgomery when peace was declared. Returning to Mower county, he again took up farming on the home place, raising wheat at first and later changing into diversified farming, making a specialty of Norman horses and Poland-China hogs. At the time of his retirement in 1896 he owned 1,000 acres of rich land, all in this county. Mr. Stimson is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the G. A. R., attends the Congregational church, and votes the Republican ticket. He was married November 11, 1866, at the bride's home in Westfield, Dodge county, to Eliza Symes, and this union has resulted in nine children: Burt L., of Lansing, this county; Charles W., of Winnebago; Alice O., wife of Miles McGowan; Winfred, of Winnebago; Emma, now Mrs. Guy Chaffee, of Freeborn county; George, of Sargeant, Minn.; Henry S., a Chicago dentist; Fred, of Winnebago; Lule, of Austin, wife of Leo Dunfee, a cigar merchant.

Charles N. Stimson was born in Vermont and there married Harriett A. Pratt, a native of the same state. They came west in 1856, located in Udolpho, Mower county, and took a homestead of 160 acres in section 24, township 104, range 18. They erected buildings, developed the land and carried on general farming, Charles N. passing away in March, 1866, and his wife in August, 1864.

Herbert St. Ledger, manager of the Southern Minnesota Land Company, with headquarters at Austin, was born in Oakland township, Freeborn county, September 24, 1876, son of Daniel and Anna Jane (Christie) St. Ledger. He received his education in the public schools of Austin, and after school farmed with his father until 1900, when he became salesman for a clothing house in Austin. Two years later he entered into the real estate business as salesman, and in January, 1908, organized the company of which he is at present the manager. Mr. St. Ledger is a staunch Republican, and an earnest worker in the cause of that party, being a member of the Republican county committee. He helped to organize the Modern Samaritans in Austin, and is also a member of the C. T. A. U. Mr. St. Ledger is an attendant of the Catholic church.

Daniel St. Ledger was born in Vermont, and married Anna Jane Christie, a native of Illinois. He was engaged as a young man in managing a sawmill on a large southern plantation. Later he went to the gold fields and mined successfully in Washington Gulch, Mont., for four years. Then he came to Freeborn county and took a claim of 160 acres in Oakland township. He built one of the first houses in that locality, hauling the lumber from Rochester. Later he added eighty acres to his land, and on his 240 acres followed farming until 1898, when he sold his farm and came to Austin, where he took up his residence.

Henry Stillman, a pioneer, was born in New York state, and married Amelia Stebbins, also a native of that state. In 1853 they came west to Wisconsin, and settled in Marquette county. There Henry Stillman engaged at his trade as plasterer, mason and contractor, as well as at farming, until 1865, when he moved his family to Pepin county, in the same state, making the trip of 200 miles by ox team. In 1887 he came to Northfield, in this state, and died in 1889. His wife died in California, at the good old age of eighty-four.

Charles F. Stillman, an Austin contractor, was born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, April 8, 1857, son of Henry and Amelia (Stebbins) Stillman. He moved with his parents to Pepin county in the same state. There he grew to manhood, and after finishing his schooling worked on a farm. Then he learned the carpenter's trade, and worked for a time in Menominee, Wis., going

in 1880 to Winona, working at the same trade. Subsequently he worked at railroading two years, then was employed a year in Minneapolis, and finally went to Northfield, Minn., where he started business as a builder and contractor and remained seven years. In the fall of 1893 he came to Austin, and has since been engaged in contracting and building in this place, having a well equipped woodworking shop on Lansing avenue. Mr. Stillman is an independent voter, and in 1908 was elected alderman of Austin from the first ward. He has been through the chairs of the M. W. A. and the I. O. O. F., and is also a member of the Commercial Club, of Austin. The subject of this sketch was married October 19, 1880, to Margaret Bergmann, and to this union has been born one son, Marcus H.

Marcus H. Stillman, son of Charles F. and Margaret (Bergmann) Stillman, was born in Northfield, Minn., September 10, 1887, and there received some of his early education, coming to Austin with his parents in 1893. Here he also attended school. He is now employed in the Government Bureau of Standards at Washington, D. C.

Lucius F. Snyder, the efficient and accommodating mail carrier of rural route No. 1 out of Austin, was born in a pioneer log house in Red Rock township, this county, May 31, 1875, son of William J. and Hannah E. (Hurd) Snyder. He received his education in the district school of his neighborhood, Bridget P. Barrett being one of the teachers, and it is worthy of note that in after years, when Mr. Snyder had become a man of prominence in the community, and was elected clerk of this district, No. 68, he hired Nellie Barrett, a sister of one of his first teachers, to take charge of the school. At the age of seventeen he took up farming for himself and followed this occupation until 1902, when the old home farm was sold after his father's death, and then came to Austin, where for one year he conducted a livery stable, which occupation he decided he wasn't cut out for. Then he took the civil service examination, and on September 22, 1903, was appointed a carrier on the route of which he was one of the petitioners to get started, and to his present position. Mr. Snyder is a Republican in politics, is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and belongs to the C. of H. and the M. W. A. Lodges. He has also served five years as a private in Company G, Second Regiment, M. N. G. The subject of this sketch was married January 25, 1899, to Estella Parkins, and this union has been blessed with four children: Emma E., Burdette R., Fred A., Sterling E., all at home. On January 31 he resigned the position as rural mail carrier on Route No. 1, heretofore mentioned after serving a little over seven years, and at all times on the best of terms with all the patrons. He then engaged in the real estate

business with a private office on Main street, and is enjoying a good trade.

William J. Snyder and Hannah E. Hurd, his wife, came to Mower county in 1866, and took up a homestead of eighty acres in the Red Rock township, which they broke and improved, and followed farming until June 16, 1897, when William J. died. His widow moved to Austin and later to Albert Lea, where she still resides.

Elbert H. Smith, of Austin, president of the E. H. Smith Land and Loan Company, and secretary of the Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company, is a native of this city, born October 2, 1868, son of Julius and Ada (Robbins) Smith. He attended the public and high schools of Austin, and in 1885 went to Iowa, where he learned the jewelers' trade. In 1897 he came back to Austin, and became traveling salesman for the Arnstine Bros. and Meier Co., wholesale jewelers, of Cleveland, Ohio, with which concern he remained for some years. Then he took up the real estate, loan and insurance business, making a specialty of farm lands, in Montana, the Dakotas and Minnesota, representing also the twelve leading fire and tornado insurance companies in America. Mr. Smith votes independently, is a master Mason, and belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the United Commercial Travelers, and the Austin Commercial Club. He has been secretary of the Mower County Agricultural Society for several years. He is one of the board of trustees of the Congregational church. The subject of this sketch was married April 6, 1893, at Austin, to Ida M. Barnes, daughter of Dr. R. A. Barnes, and to this union have been born three children: Verna M., born June 12, 1894; Marian A., born September 7, 1901; and Richard B., born November 4, 1904.

Julius A. Smith was born in New York state, and there married Ada Robbins. They came west in 1864 and purchased 160 acres of wild land in Austin township, Mower county. This land they broke, improved, and cultivated, erecting the necessary buildings, and bringing the place to a high state of development. In the early days they raised grain, but later the farm was devoted largely to stock raising and dairying. Julius Smith died November 29, 1896, and his widow is still living.

Frank G. Sasse, of the firm of French & Sasse, leading attorneys of Austin, was born in Utica, Winona county, Minnesota, July 1, 1871, son of John F. and Anna M. Sasse, natives of Germany. Frank G. received his early education in the schools of Winona county and graduated from the St. Charles high school in 1890. Then he taught school for two years, and with the money thus secured entered the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1902. Two years later he again started teaching, and after

three years had secured sufficient funds to complete his course. In 1899 he graduated from the academic department of the University of Minnesota, with the degree of B. A. A year later he graduated from the law department of the same university, and was at once admitted to the bar. After practicing in St. Charles two years he went to Fairmont, Martin county, and there became a junior partner in the firm of Mathwig & Sasse. Mr. Sasse was elected county attorney of Martin county and served as city attorney of Fairmont. He resigned, however, to come to Austin in the fall of 1909. Here he became a partner of LaFayette French, the firm taking the name of French & Sasse. Since coming here Mr. Sasse has allied himself with the Austin Commercial Club. While at college he was admitted to Phi Beta Kappa, an honorary fraternity. He is a Democrat in politics, and has affiliated himself with the Masonic order, the K. of P., the M. W. A. and the Modern Samaritans. The subject of this sketch was married July 14, 1904, at Vernon Center, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, to Elrose Howard, of that place. This union has been blessed with one child, Lucille M., born May 26, 1905.

John F. Sasse and Anna M. Sasse, his wife, were natives of Germany. They came to America in 1849, located in New York state, and in the early sixties removed to Wisconsin. A few years later they located at Winona county, Minnesota, and there ended their days, the father October 4, 1908, and the mother April 15, 1908.

John Slupe, who conducts the R. F. Shepherd farm of 450 well-tilled acres in Austin township, was born in Switzerland in February, 1849, son of Stephen Slupe. John came to America in 1868, located in New York state and engaged in teaming. In 1872 he came to McHenry county, Illinois, and farmed there two years. Then he lived in Indiana for about a year and a half, and in 1876 came to Minnesota for a short period, going then to Iowa and farming until 1886, when he again came to Mower county. In 1902 he assumed his present responsibilities on the Shepherd farm. He was married January 16, 1878, to Emeline Shores, and they have two children: Albert and J. C.

Ulysses L. Stillwell, an energetic real estate dealer and insurance agent of LeRoy, was born in St. Joseph county, Michigan, March 17, 1865, son of Thomas V. and Jane A. (Benedict) Stillwell. He received his education in Osage, Iowa, and then took up farming, an occupation he continued until twenty-five years of age, when he engaged in the insurance and real estate business. He came to LeRoy in 1894 and two years later opened a fire insurance and real estate, handling considerable land, and acting as representative of eight different insurance companies. In addition to this he has written considerable life insurance for the

Mutual Life Assurance Company, of New York. Mr. Stillwell is an independent voter, and affiliates with the I. C. M. A. and the I. O. O. F. The subject of this sketch was married June 26, 1895, at LeRoy, to Myrtie Wright, and to this union six children have been born: Vier B., May 28, 1896; Inez A., October 3, 1900; Elmo L., February 17, 1904; Pearl L. and Ruby J., twins, February 3, 1906; and Carroll M., March 25, 1910.

Thomas V. Stillwell was born in New York state, November 3, 1824, and came to Ohio when very young, later going to Michigan, where he married Jane A. Benedict, and engaged in farming. He purchased timber land, which he cleared and cultivated until 1867, when he moved to Mitchell county, Iowa, and remained there until the fall of 1880, when he moved to Howard county, in the same state, and stayed until 1905, when he came to LeRoy and lived until his death, November 13, 1908. The widow is still living in LeRoy.

Mathias Schmit, manager of the Rose Creek Lumber Company, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, February 24, 1874, son of J. P. and Margaret (Bartholmy) Schmit, natives of the same kingdom. The father was a shoemaker by trade, which profession he followed until his death, in 1888, in Germany. His good wife preceded him to the grave about two years. Mathias received his education in Luxemburg, where he grew to manhood, after which in 1891, he crossed the briny deep and came to America, locating at once in Rose Creek. Here he engaged in farm work until 1902, when he accepted a position in the lumber yard of A. Vaux. Two years later, in 1904, Mr. Vaux sold to Mr. Crane of Austin, the concern taking the name of Rose Creek Lumber Company. At this time Mr. Schmit was made manager, which position he has since efficiently occupied. The subject of this sketch was married November 22, 1904, to Mary Schumacher, and this union has been blessed with two children: Mary and John P. Mr. Schmit voted independently and is serving his fourth year as assessor of Rose Creek. He belongs to the C. O. F. and the D. R. K. U. G. V. M. The family occupies a pleasant residence in the village, owned by Mr. Schmit. The family religion is that of the Catholic church.

Carlos O. Sleeper was born in Fairfax, Vt., June 18, 1852, son of A. L. and Elbertine (Church) Sleeper. Like his brothers and sister, he came to a farm near Brownsdale in 1864, his father having located on the place two years earlier. He entered his father's store at a suitable age, and was later received into partnership. He now manages the establishment in partnership with his son, Jay M. The subject of this sketch married Hattie Warren, born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, August 1, 1856, daughter of John and Helen R. Warren. They are the parents of four

children: Mabel H.; Ruth, wife of R. B. Bailey; Claire M.; and Jay M. Mr. Sleeper has been engaged continuously in the mercantile business since twenty-four years of age. He has held a number of local offices of the Baptist church.

William B. Sleeper was born in Fairfax, Vt., June 16, 1856, son of A. L. and Elbertine (Church) Sleeper, and came with his parents to a farm near Brownsdale in 1864, his father having arrived two years earlier. He attended school in Brownsdale, entered his father's store and at the age of twenty-one was made a partner with his father and brothers. Since 1903 he has devoted his time entirely to the land business, having done a large and lucrative business. He owns and rents farms in various parts of the township of Red Rock, and has other business holdings. Mr. Sleeper married for his first wife, Edna Gillett, daughter of L. C. and Amelia (Dunlap) Gillett. She died January 18, 1881. October 16, 1884, Mr. Sleeper married Emma Rummings, daughter of John and Mary A. Rummings. The subject of this sketch is at present worthy master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M., is also mayor of the village of Brownsdale and president of the Red Rock Creamery Association.

C. B. Sayles, chairman of Austin township, and an extensive landowner of Mower county, was born in LeRoy, Mower county, April 3, 1870, son of James K. and Lucinda B (Brown) Sayles. He was brought to Austin township as an infant, attended the schools of Austin township and the Austin high school, and then at the age of sixteen years took charge of the home farm, becoming one of the leading farmers of the township. He has added to the homestead from time to time until he now has 300 acres in the home place, and 200 acres in Windom. He has made many improvements, brought the place to a high degree of cultivation, purchased new machinery and equipment, and in every way has farmed along the latest approved lines. Of late years he has turned his attention to stock raising and grain cultivation exclusively, and breeds some excellent specimens of Hereford cattle. He has occupied his present township office two years, and previous to that was a member of the board for many years. He has also given good service as a school officer. Mr. Sayles was married April 17, 1893, to Clara B. Ames, of Owatonna, and this union has resulted in eight children, seven of whom are living, and one of whom is dead. They are: Claude H., Walter A., Sarah E. (deceased), Loren L., David J., Carlton K., Leonard B., and Herbert A. The family faith is that of the Universalist church.

James K. Sayles was born in Pennsylvania and married Lucinda B. Brown, a native of New York state. In 1868 they came west to LeRoy, in this county, and one year later to Austin township, where James K. purchased 160 acres and combined black-

smithing with farming until his death, January 24, 1881, his wife following him to the grave, July 2, 1896.

C. L. Schroeder, retired farmer and former county commissioner, now living in Grand Meadow village, was born in Germany, Nov. 21, 1844, son of Carl and Jeanett (Schaffer) Schroeder, who brought him to America in 1849. After a short stay in Milwaukee they went to West Bend, Wis., where they located and went to farming. There Charles L. was reared. In 1864 he went to Missouri and remained a year, coming a year later to Minnesota. In 1867 he came from Winona to Racine and bought a farm. Here he carried on general farming until 1900, when he moved to the village of Grand Meadow. While in Racine, Mr. Schroeder was township treasurer and supervisor and school clerk and treasurer for several years. In 1880 he was appointed county commissioner to fill a vacancy, and was then elected to a full term, thus serving until 1885. He was married in 1874 to Lizzie Christgau, daughter of Mathias Christgau, and this union has been blessed with six children: Clara and Albert died in infancy; Alma, Cora, Enna N. and Erwin C. Alma is the wife of C. J. Donaldson, of Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Schroeder died April 8, 1898.

George M. Shortt, cashier of the State Bank of Brownsdale, was born in Winona county in 1862, son of Martin and Matilda (Norman) Shortt. He attended the district schools, and the State Normal at Winona, learned telegraphy and entered the railroad service, being agent and operator for the C., M. & St. P. twenty years. Was elected cashier of the Bank of Brownsdale, then a private bank, in 1905. When the State Bank of Brownsdale was organized in 1908 he retained that position, and his integrity and honor, as well as courtesy have been an important factor in the success of the institution. Mr. Shortt has allied himself with the Masons and the A. O. U. W. He married Etta J. Sanborn, daughter of John and Mary (Cheesebro) Sanborn. They have two children, Marie M., aged twelve years, and Dorris M., aged four years.

Martin Shortt was born in Montreal, Canada, of French extraction, and married Matilda Norman, a native of Boston. After their marriage they lived in Bakersfield, Vt., and later came to Winona county, Minnesota. Martin enlisted in the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, did valiant service, and died in Andersonville prison, September 15, 1864. They were the parents of four children, three of whom are living: Eunice, Elizabeth and George M. Eunice is the wife of Albro Danforth, and Elizabeth married Charles Johnson.

Nicholas M. Smith, president of the village of Adams, was born in Baaden, Germany, December 6, 1841, son of Xavier and



MR. AND MRS. C. L. SCHROEDER.

Tressa (Meyer) Smith. He came to America in 1854 with his father and brothers, Thomas and Charles, first locating in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. After a few months, Nicholas came to Lee county, Illinois, accompanied by his father. His father later went back to Poughkeepsie, stayed a year, and subsequently rejoined Nicholas in Lee county, where he purchased forty acres and farmed five years. Xavier the father and Nicholas the son then came to Mitchell county, Iowa, being followed the following year by the mother and other children, and here Xavier purchased a quarter section. There they farmed until the mother, wife of Xavier, died, and then the farm was sold. Nicholas at this time received from his father an eighty-acre farm in Adams township. After working the farm for two years he sold it and purchased a farm in Mitchell county, Iowa, where he carried on farming until 1892, when he came to the village of Adams and retired. In addition to his present office, Mr. Smith has done public service as a township supervisor while in Mitchell county. He married Elizabeth Blake, daughter of John A. Blake, and this union has been blessed with five children: Alice, the wife of John H. Krebsbach; Annie, the wife of Michael Krebsbach; William and Fred (Twins); Mary, the wife of Michael Noekels.

Stanley W. Stephenson, of Dexter, manager of one of the eighteen elevators of the LaCrosse Grain Company, of which his father, Martin Stephenson, is president and manager, was born in Brownsdale, this state, September 14, 1887. He attended the Brownsdale schools, and when sixteen years of age entered the grain business under the tutelage of his father. Mr. Stephenson belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and to the Austin Royal Arch Chapter.

Albert Swift, a prominent veteran of the Civil war, now living in Brownsdale, was postmaster of the village from 1891 to 1898. He was president of the village council two terms, recorder at various times for twelve years, and has been very active in G. A. R. affairs. He was instrumental in organizing the Henry Rogers Post, of Brownsdale, and mustered in the posts at Austin, Kasson and Grand Meadow. In 1882 he became the first commander of the Rogers post, and since then has taken a deep interest in its affairs, doing much work such as making out reports to headquarters and other details, performing the duties of adjutant. Albert Swift was born in Chautauqua county, New York, February 20, 1830, son of Samuel and Anna (McArthur) Swift. He learned the carpenter's trade, and in August, 1862, enlisted in the Civil war, serving in the First New York Dragoons until July 11, 1865, when he received his honorable discharge at Clouds Mills, Va. At the close of the war in 1865 he located in Missouri, and in 1874 came to Brownsdale, where he has since

resided. He married Ann J., daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bennett) Ray, and to this union have been born five children: Lillie, deceased; Ida L., deceased; Frank E., Edwin M. and Nina R., the latter a teacher in Gas City, Ind. Frank E. has for many year been in the employ of the Minneapolis & Sault Ste. Marie road. He lives at Sault Ste. Marie and runs a passenger train between that place and Escanaba, Mich. Edwin M. lives at Seattle, Wash., and is in the employ of the Seattle and Everett Traction Company. William Ray and his wife were natives of Dutchess county, New York, of English descent. Mr. Ray was treasurer and bookkeeper for one of the large foundries at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and retained that position for many years. He died in 1841. His wife died in 1853. Samuel Swift died in 1859 and his wife in 1853.

Suwarrow A. Smith, treasurer of Mower county, was born in Spring Valley, Fillmore county, this state, March 28, 1859, son of John M. and Ann J. (Kingsley) Smith. He attended the district schools and graduated from the Spring Valley high school, after which from 1881 to 1902 he was engaged as a grain buyer in Austin. In the latter year he was elected to the county position which he has since occupied. Mr. Smith is a Republican in politics, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the A. O. U. W. For four years he served as assessor of Austin. The subject of this sketch was married October 24, 1883, to Cora G. Burleson, who died May 12, 1897, leaving four children: Marion, Clinton, Louise and Philip W. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

John M. Smith was born in New York state, and married Ann J. Kingsley, a native of the same state. They came west in 1856 and took a homestead in Fillmore county, where they resided until 1897, when they came to Austin, John M. dying in September, 1907, and his wife in September, 1905.

William W. Sweet, mayor of LeRoy, and for whom the Sweet Hotel in that village is named, has been a prominent man in the county. He has been deputy sheriff, has served as assessor eleven years, was county commissioner ten years and chairman of that board one year. Has been president of the village council of LeRoy a number of terms. He was born in Binghamton, N. Y., May 23, 1844, son of Rowland and Patience M. (Cole) Sweet, who took him from his native place to Milwaukee in 1849. From there the family went to Aztland, Wis., where they remained one year, after which they removed to Union, where Rowland Sweet engaged in his trade as a shoemaker. In their declining years Rowland and Patience Sweet came to LeRoy and took up their residence with their son, William. William W. Sweet received a

good common school education, and has spent his life in various pursuits, having engaged extensively in building and in the real estate business. He owns the imposing brick hotel that bears his name, and has other business interests. Mayor Sweet is a veteran of the Civil War, serving three years in the First United States Ben Davis Sharp Shooters. In 1864, after having participated in twenty-seven important battles, engagements and sieges, he was given an honorable discharge, and came home from the hospital, where he had been recuperating from his wounds. Mayor Sweet married Araminta Bevier, daughter of Franklin and Sarah (Cole) Bevier, the pioneers. To this union has been born one son, Frank W. Franklin Bevier, whose father was a Hollander, was born in Binghamton, N. Y., December 15, 1805, and came to Mower county with the earliest pioneers in 1856. Sarah Cole was born in Coventry, N. Y., April 6, 1820.

Andrew S. Slindee, who farms successfully on 120 acres in section 26, Marshall township, is a native born son of this county, having first seen the light of day in 1884 in the home of his father, Ole O. Slindee, who was born in Norway, and came to Mower county about thirty years ago. Andrew S. was educated in the county schools, and began work for himself at the age of sixteen. In 1910 he purchased his present place, where he carries on general farming, turning his attention largely to cattle, hogs and poultry. He is an independent Republican and a member of the Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch was married in 1907 to Sophia Huseby, daughter of A. A. Huseby, of Marshall township, and to this union has been born a daughter, Sylvia Angeline, and a son, Orville Sylvester, who died in infancy.

Orson R. Steffens, the efficient and genial local agent at Racine for the James A. Smith Lumber Company, of Osage, Iowa, which controls some fifty lumber yards throughout the country, and which has maintained a branch at Racine for nineteen years, was born in Sumner township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 26, 1875, son of Richard and Mercy M. J. (Hammond) Steffens. He attended the public schools and also taught in the county schools of both Fillmore and Mower counties, and worked on the farm of his parents until 1907 (this farm he now owns), when he assumed his present position. Mr. Steffens is a member of the M. W. A. He married Sadie E. Eppard, daughter of Philip M. and Lucinda (McQuillan) Eppard, and they have two children, Merwin and Alice E. Richard Steffens was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, and in 1838 located in Illinois. In 1858 he took up his residence in Sumner, Fillmore county, where he followed farming until his death in 1883.

George T. Siegel, of the firm of Siegel Brothers, hardware

dealers of Sargeant village, was born in Pittsfield, Mass., son of Casper and Margaret (Geitz) Siegel, and was by them brought to Mower county in 1877. He grew to manhood on section 24, Waltham township, received a good education in the schools of his neighborhood, and later took a three years' course in Minneapolis. As a young man he entered the law offices of Empty & Empty, but after eighteen months, deciding that the vocation of a lawyer was not one well suited to his temperament, he returned home and assisted on the home farm for a while. Something over three years ago George T. and his brother Frank formed their present partnership and embarked in business. Their trade has grown rapidly, the brothers being known for their honest dealings and business sagacity. Mr. Siegel is a member of the Modern Woodmen.

Casper Siegel was born in Germany and married Margaret Geitz, a native of the same country. He came to America in the forties, landed in New York, remained there for a time and then went to Pittsfield, Mass., where he was foreman in a large mill. In 1864 he came to Mower county, looked over the farm land, then went back to Pittsfield, but in 1877 came again to Mower county, bringing his family with him and establishing his home on section 24, Waltham township, where he carried on farming and reared his family.

Samuel Swenson, merchant and postmaster of Elkton, and treasurer of the village, was born in Blooming Prairie in 1877, son of Magnus Swenson, a native of Norway. Samuel was educated in the schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of twenty-five started in the mercantile business as a clerk in a hardware store in Gibbon, Minn., remaining in this employ three years. Then he came to Elkton and had charge of a lumber yard two years, after which he purchased a hardware store. In 1910 he purchased the general store from C. C. Hogen, and is at present conducting a successful business, carrying a large stock of first-class goods and enjoying the confidence of the people for miles around. Mr. Swenson is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen. He married Laura Hagen, daughter of D. Hagen, and they have one daughter, Mildred Pearl.

Nicholas Schuartz, a retired farmer of Windom, was born in New York city, in 1845, son of John and Katherine Schuartz, who were born in Germany, and after coming to this country in 1845 located in Washington county, Wisconsin, where they died, the father at the age of forty and the mother at the age of seventy. Nicholas received his education in the schools of Washington county, Wisconsin, and there grew to manhood. He was married March 10, 1871, to Mary Uschult, daughter of John and Margarette Uschult, and at once after their marriage they came to

Nevada and afterward to Windom township, where they have prospered and reared their children. Mrs. Schuartz died April 15, 1905. Of the five children of Nicholas Schuartz, one died at the age of eleven years. Those living are: George, John, Nick, and Charles, all farmers of Windom township. Mr. Schuartz has one sister, Katherine, living. She is the wife of Nicholas Giller, of Menominee Falls, Wis.

J. C. Schottler, a successful farmer of Windom township, where he has a fine farm in section 30, consisting of 176 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, which he purchased in December, 1899, was born in Germantown, Wis., May 15, 1872, son of Nicholas and Anna (Regenfuss) Schottler, the former of whom came from Germany in 1846 and located in Germantown, Wis., where he now resides, and the latter of whom was born in Richfield, Wis., of German descent, and died June 13, 1908. J. C. Schottler was educated in the district schools and at Valparaiso, Ind., since when he has followed general farming. He is an independent voter, is in favor of the entire prohibition of the sale of liquor, belongs to the Grange and attends the Catholic church at Austin. He was married June 24, 1901, to Katharine Mueller, daughter of Peter and Margaret (Thielmann) Mueller, the former of whom came to this country in 1851 and settled in Germantown, Wis., and the latter of whom came in 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Schottler have five children: Julius, born January 19, 1903; Edward, February 18, 1904; Agnes, August 3, 1905; Florence, August 31, 1907, and Marie, May 16, 1909.

F. August Smith, for fourteen years a member of the board of supervisors of Red Rock township, and for eight years chairman of that board, is a man whose affable manner, kindness of purpose, and honesty of heart toward all, has won for him the respect of the community wherein he lives. He was born in Racine county, Wisconsin, July 21, 1855, son of John and Mary Smith, both natives of Germany. John Smith, the father, was a cooper by trade, and came to America about 1852, living both in Albany, N. Y., and Milwaukee, Wis., before locating in Racine county, Wisconsin, about five miles west of the city. He was killed in 1870 by a horse. Fredrick August, the subject of this sketch, remained on the home farm until thirty years of age, and then came to Minnesota, where he purchased a farm in the northeast quarter of section 35 in Red Rock township. He lived on this farm in a little red house, and at once set about making improvements. In 1895 he built the pleasant dwelling house where he and his family now reside. Mr. Smith married Bertha, daughter of Valentine and Wilhelmina (Miller) Zimmerman, and their children are: William, Charles, Alice, Mary and Arthur W. Alice married Henry E. Miller and they have one son, Lloyd.

William Todd, superintendent of the City Water, Electric and

Power Plant of Austin, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, September 1, 1857. When twenty-two years old he emigrated to the United States, first locating in Iowa for a year and then removing to Austin, Minn., where he entered the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, with which he was connected until 1900, in the capacity of stationary engineer. He then took a position with the Austin city waterworks, and subsequently became superintendent of the City Water, Electric and Power Plant, in which position he has shown himself an ideal public servant, having been largely instrumental in making public ownership in Austin an unusual success. In politics, he gives his allegiance to the Democratic party. Numerous offices have been held by him in the Masonic order, such as past master, past high priest, past commander, and past grand high priest for the state of Minnesota. He is both a Knight Templar and a Shriner. The American Waterworks Association numbers him among its members. Mr. Todd's wife, whom he married in 1881, was formerly Elizabeth Morrison. They have four children: Jane C., Catherine R., Isabell A., and Elizabeth M. The family attend worship at the Presbyterian church. William and Katharine (Rae) Todd, parents of our subject, are natives of Scotland, which has always been their home. Nine children were born to them, five boys and four girls, viz.: William, the subject of this sketch; John, rancher, residing in Spokane, Wash.; Jane, a resident of Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia; James, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased; Thomas, of Glasgow, Scotland; Andrew A., farmer of Rockhampton, Australia; Christine, of Rockhampton, Australia, and Margaret, deceased.

J. C. Taney, superintendent of the Austin Cement Company, was born in Covington, Ky., February 10, 1878, son of James and Nancy (Kramer) Taney. He received his education in the public schools of Indiana, and then learned the cement business, starting at fifty cents a day, and working his way up from water boy to superintendent of the United States Cement Company, at Sellersburg, Ind. From his first engagement with this company until 1906, he remained in its steady employ, with the exception of two years, during which, being inspired with an ambition to be a physician, he joined the staff of an insane asylum, in Indianapolis. Two years of this, however, caused him to decide that he was better suited for the cement business. In 1906 he came to Austin and assumed his present position. He is a Democrat, and belongs to the B. P. O. E., the I. O. R. M., and the F. O. E. The subject of this sketch was married October 20, 1909, at Austin, to Margaret C. Bechel, daughter of John Bechel. It is interesting to note that J. C. Taney is a direct descendant of Hon. Roger Brook Taney, chief justice of the United States, who rendered the Dred Scott



WILLIAM TODD

decision, and was secretary of the treasury in 1833, under President Jackson, whose memorable influence on the finances of the country form a chapter in the story of the growth and development of the national government. John W., a brother of J. C., was for many years express messenger for the Adams Express Company, at Cincinnati, Ohio. James Taney was born in Kentucky and married Nancy Kramer, a native of Indiana. James was a cement worker and merchant. In 1884 he moved his family to Sellersburg, Ind., and after working in one of the large cement plants there as superintendent, joined with friends and formed what is now the United States Cement Company, and of which he is still general superintendent.

Henry Taylor, one of the oldest residents of Mower county, has outlived four score and ten years, and is still hale and hearty and more active than many a younger man. He has seen life in three continents, Europe, Australia and North America. The subject of this sketch was born in Wesel, Germany, May 1, 1820, and received his education in the public schools and at Wesel college, served one year in the standing army of Germany, and in 1844 went to Australia, where he engaged in the general mercantile business. In 1865 he came to America and located at Milwaukee, still engaged in the general mercantile business, in which he continued for a period of seventeen years. During this period he owned several vessels on Lake Michigan. One, named from his daughter, Hetty Taylor, now lies at the bottom of that lake. In 1882 Mr. Taylor disposed of his business in Milwaukee and came to Mower county, purchasing a farm of 240 acres in section 30, Marshall township, where he engaged in general farming, until 1900, when he sold to his son, Dr. E. A. Taylor, who is a prominent physician of Racine, Wis., still continuing, however, to look after the interests of the place for this son. After selling his farm, Mr. Taylor purchased a home in the village of Rose Creek, where he now lives a retired life. He is an independent voter and a member of the Congregational church. The subject of this sketch was married in Australia, June —, 1858, to Mary Addison, who died July 13, 1900, leaving one son and two daughters: Dr. E. A., of Racine; Hetty, who married James Ballweber, now of Minneapolis; Bena, who married William Ballweber, now of Jamestown, N. D. It is worthy of note that on his ninetieth birthday, friends and citizens of Rose Creek presented Mr. Taylor with a suitably engraved cane, commemorative of the event, the memento being highly prized by the recipient.

John A. Thompson, a veteran of the Civil war, is now living in retirement in Austin, enjoying the fruits of a long and well-spent life. He was born in Preston, Chenango county, New York, November 23, 1828, son of Robert and Dorothy (Skinner) Thomp-

son, the former of whom, a farmer and blacksmith, was born in New London county, Connecticut. When John A. was eight years of age they moved to Addison, Steuben county, where he grew to manhood, learning the trade of carpenter and teaching school in Addison. Here he met and won his wife. He came west when twenty-six years of age and proved up his claim to a quarter section in what is now Windom township. He was married by a Baptist clergyman near Addison, N. Y., April 30, 1857. In a few days they started for their new home in Mower county, going by rail to Dunleith, then up the Mississippi to McGregor, then by wagon to the town of Windom, where John A. erected the first frame house in the township and commenced improving his land. Here they started life together, and the years proved kind to them, bringing a large measure of happiness and prosperity as the result of hard work and self-sacrifice. During his early years here Mr. Thompson taught school winters and work at his trade, thus helping to erect some of the oldest buildings in Austin. During the Civil war the subject of this sketch enlisted in the army and served in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, first against the Indians and then in the South, after which he was mustered out with his regiment at Fort Snelling. Then he returned to his farm and attained prominence in the community. At the organization of the town of Windom Mr. Thompson was elected one of the first board of supervisors, and was chairman of the board for many years. He served as county commissioner for one term. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson continued to live on the old farm until 1891, when they moved into Austin, and their home has since been here. They are highly regarded for their many excellent and sturdy traits of character. They have helped materially in laying the foundations of our present prosperity and development. Mr. Thompson is a Mason and a member of the G. A. R. He and his wife have had eight children, of whom six are living: John A. Jr. Robert, Howard, Sylvester, Thaddeus, and Emily. Mary and Mora are dead. John A. Jr. is an assayer in Nevada. Robert, Howard and Sylvester are farmers. Thaddeus is a mail carrier in Austin. Emily married B. C. Manchester and lives on the old homestead in Windom township. In 1907 Mr. and Mrs. Thompson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. The affair was attended by the old soldiers, old settlers, Masons and the ladies of the Eastern Star, as well as by many other relatives and friends. The happy couple was highly eulogized and received many beautiful presents.

Peter T. Torkelson, a skilled and popular physician of Lyle, was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1881, son of Gilbert and Caroline (Fosen) Torkelson, natives of Norway. Gilbert Torkelson came to America as a boy of twelve, and his wife came in



WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1877. They farmed in LaSalle county until the death of Mrs. Gilbert Torkelson, in 1886, some time after which her husband moved to Newark, Kendall county, Illinois, where he now lives. Peter T. received a good common school education in his home neighborhood, and attended the high school at Morris, Ill., two years. Later he entered the University of Valparaiso, taking the scientific course two years and graduating from the course in pharmacy in 1903. After working a time in a drug store in Morris, Ill., he entered the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery, and graduated in 1908, later receiving his hospital practice as interne in the Norwegian Lutheran Deaconess Hospital at Chicago. From February to April, 1909, he increased his knowledge by acting as assistant in the Heron Lake Hospital, at Heron Lake, Minn., after which he located in Lyle, where he has built up a large practice. He is associated with the American, Minnesota State and Mower County Medical associations, and belongs to the Masonic and Pythian orders. He votes the Republican ticket and attends the Norwegian Lutheran church. Dr. Torkelson was married September 8, 1909, to Belle Brekken, of Sacred Heart, Minn., and to this union one son, Kermit G., was born July 7, 1910.

Walter R. Terry, a popular and efficient conductor on the Iowa & Minnesota division of the C., M. & St. P., is a native of this state, having been born in Winona, Minn., October 24, 1857, son of H. S. and Mary (Frink) Terry. He received his education in Winona, and followed harnessmaking at St. Charles and Winona for five years. Then he went to Flandreau, S. D., and was in the land agency business for five years, and in the lumber business for three years. In April, 1887, he came to Austin, and engaged as a brakeman with the C. M. & St. P. Two years later he was promoted to conductor, which vocation he has since followed. He thus has nearly a quarter of a century of railroad service to his credit, and during that long period his success, his popularity and his efficiency has increased. In addition to his business, Mr. Terry makes a specialty of raising Shetland ponies, of which he is very proud, having some unusually fine specimens. Mr. Terry is a staunch Republican, and while never aspiring to office has always taken an active part in politics, and was one of the ardent workers in electing C. F. Cook to the state senate in 1910. He belongs to the Order of Railway Conductors, the B. P. O. E., the F. O. E. and the Austin Commercial Club. The subject of this sketch was married January 1, 1885, at Flandreau, S. D., to Fannie Churchill, born in Cottage Grove, Washington county, Minnesota, August 5, 1866, daughter of J. A. and Nellie (Cate) Churchill, the former now a resident of Denver, Col., and the latter having died August 15, 1899. Mr. Terry is the father

of four children: Cassius C., brakeman on the I. & M. division of the C., M. & St. P.; Edgar E., brakeman on same division; Eula, stenographer for E. H. Smith Land Company, and John H., attending school. The family attends the Episcopal church. H. S. Terry and Mary Frink, his wife, were natives of New York state. They came west in 1854 and located at Winona, where H. S. conducted the pioneer livery business and stage route. In 1865 he took up farming in Fremont township, Winona county. Ten years later he went to Brookings county, South Dakota, for a year, and then farmed for a time in Utica township, in Winona county, this state. Later he retired and took up his home in Winona, living there until his death, July 7, 1899. His widow died July 2, 1910.

Andrew S. Todalen, who owns 240 acres of good land in Udolpho township, was born in Norway in 1850, son of Sever Severson, and came to America alone in 1897. After living two years in Corning, Mower county, he went to North Dakota, and there remained sixteen years. Then he returned to this county and purchased the Cook farm, on which he at present resides. He married Julia Helgason, daughter of Helga B. Olson, Sr. The mother of Mrs. Todalen is still living and has reached the ripe old age of ninety-one. To Mr. and Mrs. Todalen have been born seven children: Sever, Helge, Maggie, Halver, Adolph, Alfred and Mollie. The family worships at the Lutheran church.

Nels A. Tonding, the capable buttermaker for the Oak Grove Creamery, Lansing, was born in Denmark in 1870, son of Anders Nelson, a farmer in that country. Nels A. came to America in 1896, came directly to Corning and at once took up his present employment. He has general charge of making the butter in the creamery with which he is engaged, turning out \$50,000 worth annually. Mr. Tonding is well liked in the community, belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, and worships at the Oak Grove Lutheran church. He married Christiana Anderson and they have four bright children: Laurits Christian, Carl Hemming, Johanne Emelia and Niels Helmot.

Joseph N. Thatcher, a substantial citizen of Brownsdale, was born in Burlington, Vt., March 25, 1846, son of Stephen and Helen G. (Isham) Thatcher, of English and German descent. He lived with his parents in Dane township, Dane county, Wisconsin, and in Winnebago City, Faribault county, Minnesota, until 1874, when he came to Brownsdale, where he has since been engaged as a carpenter and contractor. Mr. Thatcher is a prominent Mason, and is the historian for this work of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, of Brownsdale. He and his wife both belong to the Eastern Star. Mr. Thatcher married Aurelia, daughter of Lemuel and Mary (Stockwell) Ware, New Yorkers by birth. Eight children have

been born: Stephen V., Mary W., Julius E., Leland L., Thadecous, George K., Helen W. and Laura W. Mary is the wife of Ned Hunt. Stephen Thatcher, father of Joseph N., came west in 1853, settled in Dane township, Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1862 took up his residence in Winnebago City, Faribault county, Minnesota.

Galen K. Truesdell, one of the substantial citizens of Austin and an able and genial traveling salesman, was born in Austin, July 18, 1865, son of William and Mary (McDonald) Truesdell. He received his education in the public schools and started commercial life as a clerk in the store of his uncle, James Truesdell, an Austin shoe merchant. He worked in this store eight years, and was then employed four years in the store of F. P. McBride and four years in the store of F. O. Hall. He began his career on the road in 1893, as flour salesman for the Campbell Brothers. A year later he traveled for Franklin McVeagh, selling groceries, and the following year represented the Mason City Grocery Company. Since then he has been employed by the Griggs-Cooper Company, of St. Paul. He has built up a large trade, and not only does excellent service for his employers but is also popular and well liked among his customers. He belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the U. C. T., and votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Truesdell resides at 209 South Main street, making his home with his mother, and his sister, Almeda E.

William Truesdell, formerly an Austin manufacturer, now deceased, was for many years an honored resident of this county. He was born in New York state, October 8, 1829, and there received such education as the schools of that period afforded. Then he learned cabinetmaking, which he followed for many years. In 1860 he came to Austin, and continued his trade, also engaging in the manufacture of chairs and bedsteads. He died October 8, 1870. William Truesdell was married September 12, 1864, at Austin, to Mary McDonald, who was born at New Brunswick, October 8, 1841, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isreal McDonald. Mrs. Truesdell came to Austin in 1863. To her union with William Truesdell two children were born: Galen K. is a traveling salesman, and Almeda E. is a successful teacher in the Austin schools. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Thomas Varco, now deceased, was one of the well-thought-of men of the county. He was born in England and came to Canada at the age of six years. There he was educated, grew to manhood and married. In 1847 he came to the United States and located in Fond du Lac county, remaining there until 1856, when he brought his family to Mower county and took a homestead of 160 acres in Austin township. To this he added from time to time until he

owned 480 acres, upon which he farmed until later life, when he gave each of his sons eighty acres. He passed to the Great Beyond in February, 1893. His wife, who was Emeline Eddy, still survives, living in her own home on the old homestead.

Maitland E. Varco, whose family name is perpetuated in the name of the railroad station four miles south of Austin, was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, July 8, 1851, son of Thomas and Emeline (Eddy) Varco, the pioneers. He came to Mower county with his parents in 1856, and received his education in the district schools of Austin township, later engaging in farming with his father. When twenty-six years of age he received a present of eighty acres from his father, and to this he added another eighty, making in all a quarter section in section 35. In 1900 he rented his place and engaged in the painting business in Austin for several years, but later returned to his farm, and is now doing general farming. He is a Republican in politics, has served in township and school office, and has joined the Modern Woodmen and the United Workmen. He attends the Seventh Day Adventist church. The subject of this sketch was married December 24, 1876, to Hattie E. Bowers, daughter of J. S. Bowers, now deceased, a prominent farmer of Lyle township. Mr. and Mrs. Varco have two children. C. Mabel is now Mrs. James H. Aultfather and Gertrude G. is a teacher and trained nurse.

Charles R. Varco, the oldest merchant of Rose Creek, was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, July 25, 1853, and came with his parents, Thomas and Emeline (Eddy) Varco, pioneers of Mower county, to what is now Varco station, Austin township. He received his early education in the district schools, and graduated from the Austin high school. At nineteen years of age he engaged in teaching at Cedar City, in Austin township. After teaching three terms, he had saved enough money to purchase a small frame building at Varco station, which he fitted up as a store, obtaining his first stock of goods on credit. From 1875 to 1882 he engaged in the general mercantile business in this building, and then purchased the building and mercantile business of Stanley Warner, of Rose Creek, to which place he moved and where he has since remained in business. At the time of the purchase the store was 40x22. His rapidly increasing business made it necessary for him to enlarge his store three different times, until he now has a floor space 76x34. He carries a large stock of general merchandise, including a large stock of boots and shoes, and in fact everything found in an up-to-date store of this kind. In addition to his mercantile business, in 1887 he opened a harness shop where he has an expert harness maker and repairer in charge. Aside from this he has at various times been interested in other lines, having been a stock dealer four years;

in the machinery business six years and in the grain business two years. He owns several warehouses, and a commodious hall above his store, which is rented for general public affairs. He rents out three dwelling houses in the village of Rose Creek, and eighty acres in Windom township. His residence is a pleasant building on South Chatam street, in the city of Austin. Mr. Varco is a stockholder in the Inter-State Telephone Company and in the Austin Weed Exterminator Manufacturing Company. He is a progressive Republican, a member of the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A. and the A. O. U. W. Mr. Varco is an up-to-date man in every respect, and is interested in everything that pertains to the growth and development of the county. The subject of this sketch was married October 10, 1878, at the bride's home in Austin township, to Isabella Gemmel, born February 11, 1858, daughter of Andrew and Phoebe (Phelps) Gemmel, pioneers. To this union have been born five sons: Albert R. is a graduate of the Austin high school and the Minnesota State University, and holds a diploma from each of these institutions as well as from the C. & C. Hospital at St. Paul, being now a physician at Miles City, Mont. Charles E. is manager of the Yellowstone Valley Mercantile Company, with headquarters at Sydney, Mont., controlling four stores. Lynn G. is manager of one of the stores of the Yellowstone Valley Mercantile Company, with headquarters at Fairview, Mont. Thomas E. is with his brother Charles at Sydney. Walter L. lives at home. All are graduates of the Austin high school. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Andrew Gemmel, one of the pioneers of Mower county, was a native of Scotland, born in Renfrewshire, town of Paisley, October 25, 1819. His father was a postmaster in the city of Glasgow, where Andrew received his education and grew to manhood, after which he was employed as clerk in his father's warehouse, remaining in this position until 1842, when he left the bonny shores of Scotland and sailed for America. After spending one year at Montreal, Canada, he went to St. Hyacinthe, where he engaged in the general mercantile trade for a period of nine years, after which he came to the United States, where he was engaged in business at Burlington, Racine county, Wisconsin. After two years he sold out, returned to Canada and engaged in similar business for a period of three years until 1857. He then started for Minnesota with his family, coming by train to Dunlieth, Ill., thence up the river to St. Paul, where he hired teams to bring them to Cedar City, Mower county. They stopped until fall with a brother-in-law, and during that time Mr. Gemmel erected a log cabin on the land he had pre-empted in section 30, Austin township, where the family lived until 1876, their house being burned May 29, of that year. After this he erected a fine frame house,

where he lived and followed general farming the balance of his days. He died December 16, 1898, and his wife passed away September 4, 1909. He was married March 8, 1845, to Phoebe Phelps, who was born in Raughmont, near Montreal, October 5, 1821. Seven children blessed this union: Andrew, Alexander E., Margaret, Victoria, Arthur, Isabella P. and Agnes D. Mr. Gemmel was the first collector in the town of Austin.

G. K. Volstad, retired farmer of Lyle, was born in Norway, April 13, 1837, son of Knute and Julia (Halver) Volstad, natives of Norway. G. K. received his education in the schools of Norway, and came to America in 1860, locating in Mower county and engaging in farming on 320 acres in Nevada township. This land was wild, and Mr. Volstad broke and cultivated it, and there followed a life of hard labor and patient industry until 1901, when he retired and came to the village of Lyle to live. He was married October 25, 1865, to Julia Jurgenson, a native of Norway, who came to this country at six years of age. Of their nine children four are living. Samuel lives in Ohio; Arthur owns half a section in North Dakota; Emma married H. G. Dahl; Mollie married J. W. Johnson, who is dead; Malena married Bert Brown, of Owatonna. Knute, Jorgen, Mary and Fred are dead. Mr. Volstad is a Prohibitionist and a member of the Gospel Mission church, and owns stock in the Otter Creek creamery, the Lyle Telephone Company and in the Kelley Canning Company.

J. M. Vandegrift, a farmer of Red Rock township, where he has spent the greater part of his life, was born in Wilmington, Del., in 1849, son of John and Mary (Worn) Vandegrift, the pioneers. He was brought to Mower county in 1856 and reared in a log cabin in section 34, Red Rock township. He attended the public schools, and since then has devoted his life to farming. He has a comfortable residence, and his cattle are well housed in commodious buildings. Mr. Vandegrift married Anna, daughter of Soren and Anna Sorensen, both of Denmark, and they are the parents of eight children: Louise M., John M., Thomas O., Howard C., Margaret A., Miles H., Alice A. and Sumner W.

In 1888, Mr. Vandegrift purchased his parents' farm of 160 acres. He also owns the 160 acres adjoining, thus making a farm of 320 acres. This place he has greatly improved, and a feature of the landscape is his fine grove of poplar and evergreen trees. In 1908 his little son had a bonfire in the barn, this igniting the building and totally destroying it. Mr. Vandegrift then built his present large and commodious barn, 104 x 32 feet, with many modern improvements. Aside from his Mower county property, he owns 480 acres in Beltrami county, this state. He is a progressive citizen, a scientific farmer, and a sympathetic father,



MR. AND MRS. J. M. VANDEGRIFT.



VANDEGRIFT CABIN

being one of those men whose life and work are a distinct advantage and benefit to the community.

John M. Vandegrift, the pioneer, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., May 15, 1808, and there learned the mason trade. In 1843, with his wife, Mary Worn, who was born in Philadelphia, July 13, 1809, and whom he married February 17, 1831, he went to Wilmington, Del., and then in 1850 moved to Indianapolis, Ind. In 1856 Mr. Vandegrift brought his family to Mower county and settled in section 34, Red Rock township, where he was living at the time of his passing away, July 19, 1875. His wife died December 1, 1890. Their children were named Amanda L., William R., Elizabeth M., Thomas B., Mary W., Charles H., John M., Virginia and Clara. Mr. Vandegrift was an early justice of the peace in Red Rock.

Martin H. Vosburgh, artistic photographer of Austin, was born in Columbus, Wis., July 10, 1861, son of Orrin and Mary (Holmes) Vosburgh, both natives of New York state, who located on a farm near Columbus in 1850 and there spent the remainder of their days, the former dying March 13, 1907, and the mother December 9, 1906. Martin received his education in the district schools of Columbus, and then went into the photograph business in that village in 1883. Five years later he went to Beaver Dam, Wis., and remained two years, later going to Charles City, Iowa, for eleven years. After short periods at White Water and West Allis, Wis., he came to Austin, in July, 1902, and purchased the studio of E. H. Austin, which he has conducted with marked success, his work and artistic ability giving him a wide patronage. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Congregational church and of the K. of P., the Maccabees and the B. A. Y. He is also a member of the Photographic Association of America and the Northwestern Photographic Association. Mr. Vosburgh was married May 3, 1887, to Myrta A. Davis, of Beaver Dam, Wis., and to this union have been born two sons: Harold D., born December 24, 1891, and Mox O., born September 6, 1904. September 3, 1910, Mr. Vosburgh purchased the studio of J. A. Douglass, at Osage, Iowa, and moved there October 1, but still retains his Austin studio, which is conducted by his son, Harold.

Knud O. Wold, a pioneer resident and leading druggist of Austin, was born in Sogndahl, Bergenstift, Norway, November 4, 1845. His education was received in the public schools of the Fatherland, after completing which he emigrated to this country with his parents, in 1865, assisting his father for a year on his farm in Adams township, Mower county. He then came to Austin and entered the employ of the drug firm of Woodard & Dorr as a clerk, becoming a partner with Mr. Dorr in 1872, two years after the retirement of Mr. Woodard. This partnership continued

until 1897, when Mr. Wold purchased the interest of Mr. Dorr and became sole owner and proprietor, having met with a marked degree of success and built up a large and growing patronage. A full line of all that pertains to a first class drug store is carried, prescriptions being a specialty. In political convictions he inclines strongly toward the tenets of the Republican party. He is a member of the local merchants' association, and is identified with the Royal Arcanum, Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Masonic order. November 3, 1876, he was united in marriage with Petra A. Moe. Three children have blessed this union, all of whom have been given a fine education and have shown themselves worthy of the devotion of their parents. Walter E., born December 1, 1877, who is with his father in business, is a graduate of the Austin high school and of the Northwestern School of Pharmacy, of Chicago. His wife was formerly Pearl Bascomb. Ethel A., born October 9, 1881, after graduating from the Austin high school entered the state university, receiving her diploma in 1905, and then spent a year at postgraduate work in the University of Chicago. She is now teaching English in the high school at St. Cloud, Minn. Guy K., born October 19, 1888, is also a graduate of the Austin high school and received his degree from the chemical department of the Northwestern College of Pharmacy in 1909. He is in the drug business with his father and brother. The family are loyal attendants of the United Lutheran church. Their residence is at 308 South Chatham street. O. J. and Maria (Amble) Wold, parents of our subject, both natives of Norway, crossed the waters to this country in 1865, locating in Adams township, Mower county, Minnesota, where the father was engaged in farming until 1885. He then retired and removed to Austin with his wife to enjoy the remaining years of his life in retirement. He passed away August 6, 1892, at the age of eighty-two years. The mother died June 15, 1907, aged ninety-two years. Seven children were born to them, only three of whom are living: James, of Enderlin, Ranson county, North Dakota, who preceded the rest of the family to this country by a year; Knud O., our subject, and John, located at Eldora, Iowa.

A. B. Wilder, a well-known resident of Lyle, is a substantial figure in the financial integrity of the county. He was born in Otranto, Iowa, December 1, 1864, son of Nelson and Maria H. (Vaughan) Wilder. Nelson Wilder was born in Wisconsin and came to Otranto, Iowa, in 1854, and homesteaded the farm which is now owned by A. B. Wilder. Later he was married to Maria H. Vaughan, of Lansing, the first public school teacher in Austin. After the death of Nelson Wilder, in November, 1877, his widow remained with the family on the home place until 1902, when she went to Portland, Ore., where she still lives. The subject of this



JOHN J. WATLAND.

sketch, after his father's death, took charge of the home farm until October 6, 1902, when he came to Lyle. At this time he became interested in the First National Bank, of Lyle. Later he became interested in the Lyle Corrugated Company, located in Lyle and Minneapolis, of which he is president. In addition to his financial interests, Mr. Wilder owns 160 acres in Lyle township and 360 acres in Otranto, Iowa. He still takes an active interest in his farm work, and devotes a great deal of his time to it. Mr. Wilder was married December 21, 1885, to Ida Barnum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Barnum, prominent farmers and pioneers of Lyle township. Mrs. Ida Wilder died November 25, 1900, leaving three children: Vera M., now a student in Carleton College, Minnesota; Maurine, who is at Stanley Hall, Minneapolis, and Irving L., who is at home. July 2, 1902, Mr. Wilder married Grace E. Trowbridge, of Lyle township, daughter of H. C. Trowbridge. Mr. Wilder is an independent voter and an active member of the Knights of Pythias, as well as of the Masonic lodge at Lyle.

John J. Watland, an old resident of Mower county and a successful farmer, was born February 14, 1850, on a farm called Watland, but later moved to Norem Stjernero, Stavanger, Norway. His parents, Jonas and Johanna Watland, owned a fine farm on this island, and there lived in comfortable circumstances, enjoying life as could but few of the people in the neighborhood. Close to the farm was a steamboat landing, schoolhouse, postoffice and church, and in addition to these advantages a trip across the strait to the metropolis, Stavanger, could be made in two hours. Aside from John, there were two other children in the family, Bjorn and Marthe Sesselia. As these children grew older, the desire to emigrate to the so-much-heard-of and talked-of America became so strong in young John that the elder Watland, in the spring of 1873, sold his farm and personal property in Norway, and with his wife and three children left Stavanger May 11, 1873, for America. On the way here they stopped five days in England, ultimately reaching their destination, LeRoy, May 31, 1873. The first Norwegian they met at LeRoy was L. Rounestrand, now deceased, who at that time was running a tailoring shop in LeRoy. The first summer Jonas Watland, his wife, and children, Bjorn and Sesselia, made their home with Soren Engelson, while John hired out to F. B. Garvey. He was in peculiar and most inconvenient circumstances on account of not being able to speak the English language, but the Garveys were kind hearted and considerate people, and took such an interest in young Watland that they kept him until Christmas eve. In the spring of 1874 the elder Watland purchased eighty acres of land, one and a half miles north of LeRoy, and began farming. This piece of land had

a small house on it, and some thirty-five or forty acres were under cultivation. The elder Watland purchased a span of horses and a yoke of oxen, together with such machinery as was needed to operate the farm. In 1875 the Watlands bought another 160 acres, mostly covered with young timber, and brush, which had to be grubbed out and broken, thus keeping five men busy. An extra team of horses was bought, and young John Watland did most of the breaking, coming to understand fully and completely the deepest meaning of the scriptural words, "In the sweat of thy brow, thou shalt eat thy bread." In the summer of 1877 John and a Frenchman took their stand on a McCormick harvester and bound 120 acres of wheat that threshed 4,500 bushels. In addition to this they cut a considerable quantity of oats which they had to bind by hand on the ground. At this time there was much speculators' land, selling at from \$8 to \$12.50 per acre, and the country north and west of LeRoy was sparsely settled, most of the farm houses being built of logs. In 1878 John Watland purchased eighty acres, and in 1879, 160 acres, all located in LeRoy township, near the village of LeRoy. About this time John Watland took unto himself a wife, Bergethe Fuglesteen, of Newark, Ill., and built a house on the last 160 acres he purchased, thus establishing his own household of which he was the head. It is generally asserted among the old settlers that John Watland has "turned over more sod" than any other man in this part of Mower county, and his progressiveness and belief in modern methods is shown by the fact that in 1890 he planted on his farm in LeRoy township two acres of apple trees, which have proven both satisfying and profitable. Some years ago the Norwegians living north of LeRoy met together, and organized a Lutheran congregation which bears the name of Betania. In this work the Watlands took a very active part, and donated liberally to the building of a church. After establishing his home Mr. Watland added to his holdings from time to time and after having carried on successful agricultural operations for seventeen years, he rented his farm and moved to the village of LeRoy. Mr. Watland has now disposed of his old homestead, but still owns a large farm one-half mile south from LeRoy, together with lands in southern Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Watland are still enjoying good health and have all the comforts that worldly goods can bestow, while they are living in well deserved retirement amongst their friends and neighbors. Mr. Watland has always been a staunch Republican, and as such is always ready to serve his party and to promote its cause.

Eugene Wood, register of deeds of Mower county since 1886, is one of the most honored and respected citizens of the county, standing high in both political and fraternal circles, his reputa-

tion as a man equalling his honorable position as an officer. He was born in Albany county, New York, September 18, 1838, son of John M. and Orpha (Denison) Wood, both natives of New York and both now deceased. Eugene, as he was then called by his friends, received his education in the district and select schools in his native county, afterward remaining on the farm with his parents until nearly twenty-two years of age. He then worked in the wholesale and retail drug house of Wing & Sisson until 1865. In 1866 he went to Ames, Montgomery county, New York, and purchased a half interest in a lumber and flouring mill, which he conducted four years. Then he became a general merchant in Stillwater, N. Y. February 9, 1877, dates his arrival in Austin. Here he engaged in the hardware business until 1886, when he was elected to the county office in which he has since so faithfully served. Mr. Wood is a high degree Mason, has been senior grand warden of the Grand Commandery of the state of Minnesota, master of the Blue Lodge, high priest of the Chapter, and commander of the Commandery, as well as worthy patron of the Eastern Star. He has also been treasurer of the B. P. O. E. for many years, and his services as president of the Austin school board have advanced the cause of education. The subject of this sketch was married September 30, 1863, to Henrietta Beatty, of Cossackie, N. Y. This union has been blessed with four children: Fred B., now adjutant general of the state; Clara O., wife of Dr. A. M. Lewis, of Austin; J. Solan, deputy register of deeds, and Clarence, twin of Clara O., who was scalded to death. The family faith is that of the Congregational church.

Ezbon W. Wilder, a retired farmer and landowner, now living in Austin, was born on his father's farm in Bristol township, Dane county, Wisconsin, September 9, 1852. After acquiring a good common school education in the public schools of his native county, he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until 1876, when he came to Brownsdale, this county, and engaged in farming on his own account. Two years later he purchased the farm he now owns, consisting of 320 acres, all adjoining, described as follows: the south half of the southwest quarter of section 13; the northwest quarter of section 24, and the east half of the northwest quarter of section 23, all in Red Rock township. Mr. Wilder gradually developed this farm into one of the most productive in the county, adding up-to-date buildings and machinery from time to time and building a modern home, always keeping well abreast of the times. On this farm he pursued general diversified farming with much success until 1902, when he left the farm and moved to Austin, where he has since lived, enjoying a well earned rest after his many strenuous years of toil. In addition to his farm in Mower county, he owns a quarter sec-

tion in Lac qui Parle county, this state. In politics he is a Republican, and has served several terms as assessor of Red Rock township. He was married March 14, 1881, to Catherine Davis, born in the same year as himself. They have five children: Ruth E., a teacher in the Austin schools; Davis E., of Williston, N. D.; Nellie L., a graduate nurse, now in the Wesley Hospital in Chicago; Frost W., of Minot, N. D., and S. Katherine, who lives at home. The family worships at the Methodist Episcopal church. David Wilder, a Wisconsin pioneer and father of Ezbon W. Wilder, of Austin, was born in Bristol, Ontario county, New York, May 24, 1815, and died in the village of Sun Prairie, Wis., January 18, 1896. He was a descendant of Thomas Wilder, who in 1838 sailed from Southampton, England, in the ship Confidence and settled in Massachusetts. In 1819 his father moved to Campbell county, Indiana, and in 1822 he settled permanently in Rush county, Indiana. He lived at home until 1836, when he came to Milwaukee, where he remained two years. David Wilder was one of the pioneers of Dane county, Wisconsin, and settled in Madison in 1838, soon after it was established as the seat of government. He lived there until the spring of 1839, then went to Mineral Point, and stayed one summer, returning to Madison again in the fall. In the spring of 1840 he went to Milwaukee and was the second carrier on the stage route between Madison and Milwaukee, working the route in partnership with Jesse Clark, another pioneer. In 1840 he returned to Madison, remained there until 1842, then settled in what is now the township of Bristol, in Dane county, and lived there with the exception of one year until May, 1877, when he rented his farm and removed to the village of Sun Prairie, where he ended his days. At the organization of Bristol township he suggested the name and was a member of the board that laid out the principal roads in that township. October 23, 1844, he was married to Ruth Nichols. Three sons and four daughters blessed this union: Howard N., of Fort Dodge, Iowa; Ezbon W., of Austin; George W., of Waukesha, Wis.; Mrs. T. L. Waddell, of Jennings, La.; Mrs. C. S. Moak, of Leavenworth, Kan.; Mrs. C. E. Mann, of Chicago, and Helen, now deceased. For thirty years Mr. Wilder was a member of the Methodist church, and for a greater part of the time an official in that organization. Ruth A. (Nichols) Wilder, wife of David Wilder and mother of E. W. Wilder, of Austin, was born in Leeds, Canada, March 7, 1825. Her parents were New England people. At the age of seventeen she, with her brother and two sisters, located in Wisconsin, making the trip overland by ox team, settling near Sun Prairie, where their parents had preceded them. She was married October 23, 1844, to David Wilder, and in 1894 they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, the family

circle at that time being unbroken. Mrs. Wilder was a woman of deep piety and sweet Christian character. Robert Davis, father of Mrs. E. W. Wilder, of Austin, was born in North Wales, in 1815. At the age of twenty-four he and his aged mother settled in Utica, N. Y., and three years later moved to Racine, Wis. There, in March, 1845, he married Eleanor Jones. After his marriage he took up a claim near Watertown, Wis., and with his young wife journeyed hither by ox team. In 1864 he located in Bristol township, Dane county, Wisconsin, and farmed many years, after which he moved to the village of Sun Prairie and spent his life in retirement until the ending of his days. He was the father of eight children: John, David, Nellie, Mrs. F. R. Salisbury and Mrs. E. W. Wilder. Mrs. Eleanor (Jones) Davis, wife of Robert Davis and mother of Mrs. E. W. Wilder, of Austin, was born in North Wales, December 21, 1816, and came to America with her family in 1844. She was married in March, 1845. Mrs. Davis was a woman of beautiful Christian character, loved by all.

Col. Charles L. West, one of Austin's leading citizens, is known far beyond the limits of the county where he has made his home, and his service on the military staff of the chief executives of the state has done him much credit. Colonel West was born in Chautauqua county, New York, March 30, 1846, and was brought west by his parents in 1855, and spent the winter of that year in Indiana, living for a time in Lyle township, this county, and then at Otranto, just across the line in Iowa. His boyhood education was received in the schools of the latter village, after which he entered the Cedar Valley Seminary at Osage, Iowa, in 1863. After a three years' course in that school he entered the employ of a general store in the same place, and remained another three years. In 1869 he came to Austin, and clerked three months for Johnson Bros. in their drug store. Then until 1871 he worked in the general store of Austin & Richardson. In the latter year he embarked in business for himself by opening a crockery store. In June, 1873, he and R. O. Hall opened a general store, which was gradually specialized until it became a first class dry goods emporium. In July, 1901, Colonel West purchased the interest of Mr. Hall, and has since been the sole proprietor, the firm being known as the C. L. West Dry Goods Company. The store is modern in every particular, and carries a fine line of dry goods, cloaks and suits. Colonel West is a Republican in politics. He served the city of Austin one term as mayor, two terms as alderman from the second ward, and two terms as city treasurer. In Masonic circles he also ranks high. He has been grand commander of Minnesota, Knights Templars, and has also served as grand high priest and deputy grand master

of the state grand lodge, A. F. & A. M. In 1891 Charles L. West was appointed major on the staff of Governor William R. Merriam for two years. During this period he was appointed lieutenant colonel. He served in a similar capacity on the staffs of Governors Knute Nelson and David M. Clough, but in 1897 retired from military life to serve as a member of the legislature, being re-elected in 1899. In 1901, when Governor Samuel R. Van Sant came into office, he appointed Charles L. West colonel on his staff. Governor John A. Johnson retained him in a similar capacity, and as Governor Adolph O. Eberhart retained all the members of the old staff he is still serving. In business life Colonel West has not confined himself to his dry goods line, but has interested himself in a number of other enterprises, including the Tri State Telephone Company, of which he was one of the organizers. He was married December 18, 1872, at Dixon, Ill., to Charlotte C. Hall, daughter of R. O. Hall. She was the mother of four children: Katie, who died at fourteen years; Harry L. and Veta A., who are with their father, and Leon H., who has a clerical position in the bank at Missoula, Mont. July 7, 1893, Colonel West married Minnie Van Blarcum, at Madison Lake, Minn. The family faith is that of the Congregational church. David West and Harriett Woodworth, his wife, early pioneers and parents of Col. Charles L. West, were natives of New York state. They came west in 1855 and spent the winter of that year in Indiana, and later they came to Mower county and pre-empted 160 acres of wild land, built a log cabin and remained until 1862. Then they moved across the line into Iowa, and there the father opened a hotel at Otranto, which he conducted until about 1869, when he disposed of the hotel business and became a merchant and postmaster in Otranto station. He and his wife were sturdy old early settlers, and had their share of the hardships incident to pioneer days. David West died in 1902, his wife having passed away in the fall of 1868.

I. E. Mandeville Worthing, M. D., one of Austin's well-liked and capable physicians and surgeons, was born in the old Worthing homestead in Penfield township, Monroe county, New York, November 13, 1876, son of Jerome E. and Emma C. (Mandeville) Worthing. He received his early education in the district schools of his native township, and in the public and high schools of Webster, then taking a course in normal training at Fairport, N. Y., graduating August 8, 1898. After more than two years of teaching, he again resumed his studies, and took courses as follows: Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, at Lima, N. Y., two years; medical department of the Southern Indiana Normal College, at Valparaiso, Ind., one year; College of Physicians and Surgeons, University of Illinois, at Chicago, about two and a half years;

Northwestern Medical School at Chicago, about two years. After his graduation with a medical degree in 1908, he returned home for a few months and then practiced at Hinkley, Pine county, Minnesota, three months. In March, 1909, he started practice in Austin, and has been very successful. He is a Republican in politics and belongs to the Methodist church. Dr. Worthing was married November 28, 1909, to Mary E. Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Bell. The family home is at 408 North Main street. Dr. Worthing is at present instructor in physiology and hygiene at the Southern Minnesota Normal College. Jerome E. Worthing and Emma C. Mandeville, his wife, parents of Dr. I. E. Mandeville Worthing, are of English and French-Holland ancestry, respectively. They are now engaged in farming in Penfield township, Monroe county, New York, and have had six children: I. E. Mandeville Worthing, an Austin physician; Mabel, a teacher; Anna, now Mrs. Arthur Todd, of West Webster, N. Y.; Edith, a teacher and a graduate of the Brockport (N. Y.) State Normal School; Mason, of West Webster, N. Y., and Frances, teaching near New York city.

Henry Waterman, who is engaged in the general building and contracting business, came to Austin in 1902, and has since been actively engaged, among his larger contracts being the erection of the Carnegie library, the Methodist church and the Hall & Dalager building on Main street. Mr. Waterman is a member of the Royal Arcanum, and is well liked by his associates. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, June 25, 1856, son of Henry and Sophia (Winter) Waterman, the former being a native of Bremen, Germany. Henry grew to manhood in Cook county on his father's farm, and remained at home until sixteen years of age. After that he learned the carpenter trade and then came to Austin. He married Tillie Maas, daughter of Julius Maas, and they have two children: Lillie and Gilbert. He is a member of the Methodist church and of the Republican party.

Edwin Watkins was born in Austin township, July 8, 1873, son of Whittechur and Mary (Reynolds) Watkins. He was reared on the farm, attended the schools of his neighborhood, the graded schools of Austin and a business college in Austin. In 1896 he rented the old place and there lived until 1905, when he came to Austin and started in the second-hand business, also devoting his time to the purchase and sale of second-hand goods. He was married September 2, 1896, to Katie A. Brown. His brother, Harvey, conducts the home place in Lyle township.

Whittechur Watkins, now deceased, for many years an honored farmer of Lyle township, and still later a resident of Austin, was born in Wales, February 28, 1844, and came to America with his parents, locating first in Wisconsin. He came to Minnesota in

1856, and located in the embryo village of Cedar City, where after receiving a common school education he remained on the home farm until he was enabled by diligence and thrift to purchase eighty acres of land in Lyle township. He increased his possessions until he owned 200 highly cultivated acres, on which he conducted general farming until 1896, when he retired and moved to Austin, making his home here until his death, August 5, 1909. He was married the first time to Mary Reynolds and by this union had two children: Edwin and Harvey. After the death of his first wife he married Frances Hoffman. He was for many years supervisor of Lyle township and was interested in the Farmers' Co-operative Fuel Company.

A. M. Warner, of Grand Meadow, was born in Spring Valley, Fillmore county, December 9, 1875, son of George and Ella (Coie) Warner, who came from Canada and settled in Spring Valley, where George Warner was an early settler, becoming a respected citizen and remaining until his death, in 1908. In the home of George and Ella Warner were seven children. Alva M. was the fifth child. He remained at home until sixteen years of age and then worked out until twenty years old, when he married Setta Schwabenthal, daughter of William and Minnie (Fielhaber) Schwabenthal, both of whom are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Warner are the parents of four children: Verna, Sidney, Freddie and Duane. In 1895, after his marriage, Mr. Warner rented a farm. Nine years later, in 1904, he engaged in the livery business, which he is still conducting successfully. Being of a fraternal disposition, he has allied himself with the B. A. Y., in which he is a popular member.

Michael White, now deceased, for many years a farmer in Lansing township, was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, and after coming to America located for a time in Pennsylvania. Later he went to Le Seuer, in Minnesota, and subsequently took up his home in Lansing. In 1874 he married Mary Rutherford, daughter of William and Charlotte (Green) Rutherford. Mrs. White was born in Louisville, Ky. She is a capable business woman, and since her husband's death in 1903 has managed the farm of 165 acres, assisted by her two sons and a daughter. Mr. and Mrs. White were blessed with nine children, of whom six are living: Julia, Charlotte, Philip J., Mary, Margaret and Thomas P. Charlotte is the wife of T. F. Cain and Mary is the wife of F. X. Snyder. Julia is the wife of M. G. Braun.

William Rutherford, now deceased, was a prominent man of the early days and was instrumental in strengthening the Catholic faith in this locality, contributing liberally in time and money to its cause. He was born in the county of Dublin, Ireland, April 27, 1822, and there grew to manhood, receiving a good common school

education. His early manhood was spent in farming in his native country, and in 1846 he married Charlotte Green, who was born July 15, 1818. In 1850 they left the old country and sought their fortunes in America. They landed in New York city, July 12, then went to Kentucky and remained until 1854, going thence to Iowa, where they remained for nearly a year. August 10, 1855, they came to Mower county, entered the east half of the east fourth of section 11, and proceeded to build a log house, which is still standing one-half mile from the village of Lansing. His prosperity increased, his farm was developed, and he attained success by hard work and perseverance. It is an interesting fact that Mr. Rutherford assisted in laying the corner stone for the first church erected in Austin.

Milton J. Woodson, now deceased, was one of the honored pioneers of Mower county. His life was an exemplification of industry, integrity and righteousness, and in dying he left an honored heritage to his children. The subject of this sketch was born in Green county, Kentucky, February 14, 1823, son of George Washington Woodson. He was taken to Illinois when nine years of age and there completed his education. After his school days were over, he hauled lead from Galena, Ill., to Milwaukee, and in 1849 went to Iowa, where he bought a farm in Fayette county, and farmed until 1855, when he came to Mower county and purchased a quarter section of government land at \$1.25 per acre. On this land he continued farming until his death, December 24, 1890. The subject of this sketch was married November 15, 1848, at Green county, Wisconsin, to Cynthia Ann Davis, who was born in Indiana, April 25, 1832, daughter of Elder John and Hanna (Moore) Davis. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Woodson was blessed with ten children: James W., born September 22, 1849, now at Charleston, Ill.; John Wesley, born August 30, 1851, and died in July, 1853; William J., born April 26, 1854; George A., born May 11, 1856; Henry, born June 17, 1858; Albert, born November 12, 1865, now of Colorado; Sarah, born August 7, 1867, now Mrs. Joseph Lohman, of Austin; Thomas, born November 10, 1869; Martha, born March 8, 1872, now of Denver, Col., and John, born March 13, 1875. The family faith is that of the United Brethren church. George Washington Woodson was a native of Virginia. When a young man he with a colony went to Kentucky and there lived until 1824, when he went to Indiana. Years later he returned to Kentucky and there remained until 1834, when he went to Illinois, where, in 1835, his wife died. He afterward married again, and soon purchased a farm in Coles county, Illinois, where he ended his days. His maternal grandfather, James Buntin, was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Arthur E. Warren is one of the progressive merchants of

Brownsdale, and his general store is well stocked and well patronized. He was born in Rochester, Minn., December 16, 1872, son of John and Helen (Greenleaf) Warren. He was reared on a farm and spent one winter in Florida; then one winter in Warren, Wis.; then two years in Sheffield, Iowa; then five years at Redfield, S. D.; then one year in Beebee, Ark. The last eighteen years he has spent in Mower county. He is a member of the M. W. A. Arthur E. Warren married Anna Hunt, daughter of George Hunt, and they have three children: Hope, Frank and Robert.

John Warren was born in Saratoga county, New York, and married Helen Greenleaf, a native of Chautauqua county, New York. He came west in 1863 and settled in Rockdell township, Olusted county. In 1874 he came to Brownsdale, but from time to time worked in the pineries with his brother at a place still called Warren, Wis. In latter years he worked a small farm near Brownsdale. His children are: Hattie, wife of Carlos O. Sleeper; Louis, George and Arthur E.

Frank T. Young, general merchant and prosperous citizen of LeRoy, was born in Albion, Ind., August 1, 1858, son of Thomas and Adeline (Avery) Young, who brought him to Mower county as a child. He received his schooling in the brick schoolhouse in LeRoy, and after this taught school two years. After two more years, spent in F. H. Avery's store, he worked on the railroad, and was giving satisfaction to his employers in this work when a wreck in the St. Paul yards caused him serious injury. After his recovery he worked for a time for T. A. Killen, and later for H. A. McConnell, subsequently going to Chicago, where he was employed with Marshall & Harcastle. This work he was obliged to give up, being called home to settle the estate of his uncle, F. H. Avery. In 1885 he formed a partnership with Willard K. Porter, which continues to the present time, conducting one of the old substantial general merchandise houses of the county. Aside from the local business, the cloak department of the company has salesmen on the road, and in addition to this the partners deal extensively in live stock, making daily shipments to Austin. Mr. Young is a member of the B. P. O. E., of Austin, and of Eureka Lodge, No. 75, A. F. & A. M. He married Mary, daughter of Captain John E. Jones, of Carroll, Iowa, and they have three children: Thomas O., Bernice and Frank E. Thomas Young was born in Wayne county, New York, where his parents lived and where he spent his early manhood and was married, afterward coming to Mower county. Adeline Avery, his wife, was the daughter of John T. Avery, a silversmith, who was born in Norwich, Conn., and later moved to Cohecton, Sullivan county, New York, subsequently going to Wayne county, New York, where Adeline was married.



SAMUEL W. RICE

Samuel W. Rice, pioneer, veteran of the Civil war, and retired farmer now living in Austin, was born in Thetford, Orange county, Vermont, February 27, 1834, son of Samuel B. and Sarah (Caswell) Rice. He was taken by them to Errol, Coos county, New Hampshire, in 1851, and in the spring of 1855 came West, being employed for a time in running a head saw in the Michigan pineries. He arrived in Austin the same year, the city then being but a small hamlet of scattered houses. He went to work for Chauncey Leverich, one of the original proprietors of Austin, and in his saw mill sawed the lumber for the first hotel erected in Austin, the structure being located on the corner of Franklin and Mill streets, on the present site of the Williams House. Mr. Rice and R. O. Hunt were afterwards in partnership in the blacksmith business for a short time. He then operated a threshing machine with Wesley Slocum one year. The subject of this sketch enlisted in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the early stages of the Civil war, and served over two years as bugler, receiving an honorable discharge for disability caused by eye trouble. Returning to Mower county, he farmed until fifteen years ago, when he retired. His son now owns and operates the home farm. Mr. Rice married Lucinda Slocum, daughter of Cook Slocum, a native of New York state. Mr. and Mrs. Rice have had seven children, of whom the living are: Mary L., now Mrs. Louis Clark; Charles L.; Emma, now Mrs. Otis Robinson; and Walter J. Those deceased are: Nettie B. Adams, William Rice and one who died in infancy.

Samuel B. and Sarah (Caswell) Rice were natives of Vermont. The former, who was a miller by occupation, sold his mill in 1851, and moved his family to Erroll, Coos county, New Hampshire, where he purchased several hundred acres of land. There he farmed and raised his family of four children: Hanna M., Elizabeth, Lester B. and Samuel W.

Charles L. Rice, who has prominently identified himself with the movement for the bettering of farm conditions in Minnesota, was born in Windom township, this county, May 23, 1865, the closing year of the Civil war. He received his education in the district and graded schools and in the Austin high school, after which he took up farming on the home place, which now consists of 215 acres in sections 11 and 12, Austin township. Here he still continues to carry on agricultural operations, raising diversified crops and breeding pure blooded Hereford cattle, Percheron horses and registered Chester white hogs. He is the owner of Lapolian Prince, one of the greatest sires in the state. He is a modern farmer in every respect, has a remodeled, well furnished home; water supply in house, barn and hog house; a large silo; commodious barns, and an engine house, as well as a full equip-

ment of modern machinery. Mr. Rice was married June 20, 1888, to Rose E. Grimshaw, and this union has been blessed with two children: George W., who lives near Round Up, Montana, and Charles R., who died in infancy. Mr. Rice is a prominent officer of Grange No. 604, Patrons of Husbandry, and for twenty years has been a member of the Mower County Agricultural Association, serving as its president two years. He is a Republican in politics, and has served in various capacities on the town and school board.

Samuel Schutz, a pioneer of Fillmore county, was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, and there married Elizabeth Hane, also a native of Switzerland. He brought his family to America in 1852, and purchased eighty acres in Will county, Illinois, remaining on that farm until 1856, when he sold out and came overland by ox team to Fillmore county, where he took a homestead of 160 acres in Beaver township. He first erected a log cabin and in this he and his family lived until 1869, when he erected a fine brick house in which he lived until 1873, when he sold his farm and moved to Kasson, Dodge county, where he purchased a home and lived until his death, February 13, 1892, his good wife preceding him to the grave, in August, 1876. They were the parents of seven children. Four died in early life. Three grew to manhood and womanhood. Of these three, Samuel H. and Rudolph A. are living and Elizabeth is dead. Samuel H. served in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and is now a pensioned soldier living in retirement at Naperville, Ill. He has nine children: Sarah, Albert, Anna, Lena, Lilly, Frank, Nettie, Elmer and Birdie. Elizabeth married Jacob Leuthold, a native of Zurich, Switzerland, and died April 12, 1910, leaving seven children: Carrie, Jake, John, Henry, Charles, Rudolph and Anna, the latter being the wife of Philip Hines, who is connected with the Drs. Mayo, of Rochester, as a druggist. The sons constitute the firm of Leuthold Brothers, the well-known clothiers, who own a chain of stores throughout the Northwest. Rudolph A. is a resident of LeRoy township.

Rudolph A. Schutz, of LeRoy township, agriculturist, horticulturist and lecturer on the preceding subjects, with the State Farmers' Institute, was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, May 22, 1850, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Hane) Schutz, the pioneers. He came to America with his parents in 1852, lived with them in Will county, Illinois, and with them came to Beaver township, Fillmore county, in 1856. There he received his earlier education, and later attended a school taught in the old town of LeRoy, by the Hon. John Williams, who was afterward burned to death in the postoffice fire at LeRoy. Rudolph A. also attended the Evangelical College, at Plainfield, Ill. Thus equipped he returned home and farmed with his father until 1872, in which

year he took charge of the home farm. Two years later he purchased eighty acres of wild land in section 13, LeRoy township, and built a home. The following year, after breaking the land, he set out trees which have now developed into a fine grove of maples, willows and cottonwoods. At the same time he set out many evergreen trees such as fir, balsam, spruce and European larches. He also entered into fruit growing, and started an abundant supply of apple, plum, cherry and other fruit trees, as well as a variety of small fruits and berries. He soon added another eighty acres to his farm, making a quarter section in all. On this farm he worked until 1891, when he purchased a farm in section 22, to which he moved. That fall he rented his first farm, and two years later sold it. To his new farm he has added from time to time until he now owns 250 acres, all under the highest cultivation. His buildings are also in good condition. In 1891 he began planting apple trees on this farm, and now has two large orchards in bearing condition. In 1904 he was awarded the silver medal in the Minnesota fruit exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis, being the only one to receive that prize from Mower county. Mr. Schutz is a Republican in politics, and his family are all members of the First Presbyterian church at LeRoy. Aside from serving his township as supervisor for five years, he has been greatly interested in horticulture all his life, and for the past six years has been connected with the Farmers' State Institute. During the first three years of this time his lectures were confined solely to horticulture, but since that time he has lectured on all the principal farm pursuits as well. He also gives evening lectures on "Model Home Life on the Farm, Its Beauties and Attractions." In 1909 he was sent as a delegate to the Horticultural and Agricultural Convention, held at Winnipeg, and covering the provinces of Canada. In June, 1910, he was promoted to conductor, having charge of a corps of lecturers, for the State Farmers' Institute, which position he now occupies. In 1910 he was chosen as a delegate to the Williamsburg State Convention of Iowa. Rudolph A. Schutz was married July 20, 1872, to Minnie A. Klampe, born in Germany, July 5, 1852. This union has been blessed with six children: Matilda E., died May 25, 1879; Eliza A. is the wife of George J. Malcombson, of LeRoy township; Alice F. graduated from the LeRoy high school, and is now teaching, being the holder of a first grade certificate; Ralph F. assists his father on the home farm; Walter Valentine is teller of the First National Bank, of Mott, North Dakota; Irene S. is a student at the state school in Faribault, having been stricken deaf and dumb as the result of brain fever at the age of five months. The parents of Mrs. Rudolph A. Schutz were John and

Mary (Las) Klampe. They came to America from Germany in 1858, and after living a time in Dodge county, Minnesota, moved to Sibley, Iowa, where they took a homestead. Mrs. Klampe died December 10, 1899, and her husband moved to Jefferson, Oregon, where he died April 5, 1908.

Hon. John Frank. Few men in southern Minnesota, now alive, have accorded them a greater meed of love and appreciation than has been earned by John Frank, of LeRoy township. Possessing, as he does, one of those rare characters which instinctively attract sterling friendships, he has unostentatiously pursued his way, radiating encouragement and cheer, and instilling new ambitions and happiness in the hearts of all with whom he comes in contact. Already well past the allotted three score years and ten, he is now one of the patriarchal figures of the county, respected and held in highest regard by the older people, and venerated and held in affection by the younger. Such a life as his, standing as it does for industry, progress and decency, cannot fail to have a lasting and salutary effect upon the character of the county. The youngest of the seven children of Jacob F. and Frederika (Geds) Frank, well-to-do middle-class German farmers, he was born February 13, 1834, in Wurtemberg, Germany, and in that kingdom was reared to manhood, losing his mother when he was twelve years of age, and his father three years later. June 4, 1854, he landed in New York city, and thus began his honorable career as a resident of this country. After spending several months in New York, he resolved to seek a newer country, and accordingly came westward, spending the summer of 1855 as a clerk in a store at Rockford, Illinois. In September, 1855, he continued his westward journey, and located for the winter in Howard county, Iowa. In the spring of 1856 he came to Mower county, and pre-empted a quarter section of wild land in section 30, LeRoy township. Since that date, he has continued to reside in this county, gaining increasing honors with increasing years. Upon his arrival here, he erected a log cabin, and for a time kept house for himself. The country so strongly appealed to his sense of beauty and utility that he resolved here to establish his roofter. Accordingly he returned to Rockford, Illinois, and was there married to Catherine E. Lachele, thus consummating a most delightful romance. Catherine E. Lachele was born in Geisingen, Wurtemberg, Germany, October 30, 1833, in a home of wealth and comfort. In 1854, after her mother's death and the coming of a step-mother to the home, Catherine E. and her sister left the old country, came to America, and located in Forest City, Ohio. In Cleveland she met the young countryman of hers who was designed afterward to become the life-long companion of her joys and sorrows. After their marriage, the young people set up housekeeping in the wilderness.



John Frank

Mrs. Frank proved herself a true and noble helpmeet, ever a loving, sympathetic and faithful wife and mother, and a shrewd, frugal, capable and hardworking housewife. These two souls were well mated. Their quarter section has been enlarged until they now own 1,580 acres, and their log cabin has been replaced by a modern home, known far and wide for its hospitality. While accumulating so goodly a store of this world's goods, the Franks have not forgotten the needy, and have distributed to the poor and deserving with liberal hand. In October, 1861, the peace of the home was shattered by the call for soldiers to defend the Union, and for many years these loving souls were apart. Mr. Frank enlisted in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, for three years, and at the close of that period re-enlisted until the close of the war, serving until the summer of 1865, when he was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and discharged at Fort Snelling, having in the meantime followed all the fortunes of his regiment. After his discharge he served as sutler's clerk for two years, and was then appointed sutler, serving in this capacity until 1877, when he returned to the farm, where he has since resided. In 1899 he retired from active life, but still lives on the old homestead. Mr. Frank has always been a Democrat. He is a member of the German Lutheran Church, a Knight Templar and a member of the G. A. R. He served in the legislature of 1882, has been school clerk twenty-five years, and has given his services to the town in various other capacities, such as those of supervisor and road overseer. He was candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota in 1886, and for presidential elector in 1884. In the Frank family are three children: Louisa, wife of John LeBorius, a farmer of Hennepin county; William Monroe, cashier of the First National Bank of LeRoy; and Irene M., wife of W. D. Bassler, a leading Austin haberdasher and clothier. The parents of Mrs. Frank were Christopher and Barbara (Graff) Lachele.

John R. Roberts, for over twenty-five years a member of the board of supervisors of Bennington township, and for a greater part of the time chairman of that body, was born in Portage county, Ohio, January 11, 1841, son of Edward and Ann (Thomas) Roberts. He was reared on the farm, educated in the country schools of Wisconsin, and there grew to manhood, remaining on the home farm until 1870, when he came to Mower county and two years later, in 1872, purchased eighty acres in section 26, Bennington township. This land he broke and improved, erecting a good lot of frame buildings and later adding another eighty, making in all 160 acres, all in section 26. On this tract he conducts general farming, a vocation in which he has been most successful. The subject of this sketch was married

November 11, 1872, to Mary J. Perry, who was born at Albany, Missouri. November 12, 1858, and died July 6, 1899, leaving seven children: Albert O., Glenn and Stanley B. are residents respectively of Bennington township, Minneapolis, and the state of Washington. Edna lives in Minneapolis and is the wife of Edward M. Sly. Maude is the wife of William Biel, and they have two children: Alleen and Loyce. The Biel family lives with Mr. Roberts. Edward Roberts lives in the state of Washington. Bessie is the wife of Carl Watt, of Richland county, Wisconsin. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edward Roberts, father of John R. Roberts, was born in Wales and came to America at the age of fourteen years. His wife was born in the same country and came to America when sixteen years of age. They were married at Cleveland, Ohio, and settled at Akron, Ohio, where Edward engaged in farming and stone cutting until 1848, when they came to Wisconsin, locating in Rock county. Here they acquired 160 acres of land by paying a settler \$40 for his claim, and then paying the government \$1.25 an acre. On this tract Edward Roberts prospered and lived until April 6, 1852. His wife died in Spring Valley, this state, January 9, 1897. Their children are: Elizabeth, William, John R., Sarah A., Kate A., Edward and Albert.

Rev. Christian A. Affeldt is pastor of three German Evangelical churches in Mower county and is doing a noble work. Well fitted for his work by natural abilities and by acquired training, he has already seen much fruit of his ten years' service in Mower county. Rev. Affeldt was born near Wykoff, Fillmore county, December 15, 1876, son of Julius and Wilhelmina (Kolberg) Affeldt. Julius Affeldt was born in Greifenhagen, Pomerania, Germany, came to America in 1865, and located near Watertown, Wisconsin, a short time, afterward taking up his residence near Portage until the spring of 1875, when he came to Minnesota, purchased a farm in Fillmore township, Fillmore county, and there carried on agricultural operations until his death, October 16, 1902. His mother is still alive. Christian A. attended the district schools in his native county, and then went to the parochial school of his at Wykoff. In the fall of 1892 he entered the Concordia Seminary at Springfield, Illinois, from which he graduated in June, 1899. After serving a short time at Litchfield, Custer county, Nebraska, he came to Mower county and took charge of the Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church, located in section 29, Waltham township. In connection with this church a parochial school is conducted, where, in addition to the usual branches, German is taught and religious instruction given. In addition to this, Rev. Affeldt also has charge of the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran church in Austin and the St. John German

Evangelical Lutheran church in Sargeant. The subject of this sketch was married, May 17, 1900, to Martha Asche, daughter of Werner and Caroline (Brennicke) Asche, and their children are: Paulus, Phoebe, Erna, Edna, Timothy, Flora, Theodora and Arnold.

Albert F. Lewis is a modern farmer of LeRoy township, and has introduced to this vicinity intensive methods of farming which are meeting with wide favor. He was born in Barry county, Michigan, October 24, 1867, son of Franklin R. and Adeliza M. (Hubbard) Lewis, natives of New York state. In 1846, the parents of Franklin Lewis went to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and engaged in farming. In 1862 he enlisted in the Sixth Michigan Cavalry and served until the end of the war. In 1866 he took up his residence in Middleville, Barry county, in the same state, and farmed there until shot by his hired man, September 22, 1877, at the age of thirty-five years. His widow, with her family, then removed to Galesburg, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and there lived until her death, December 9, 1887. Albert F. received his education in his native state, there grew to manhood, and for several years worked at various work at different places. In 1892 he located in North Dakota, and there attained prominence as a leading citizen, carrying on general stock raising and serving as a justice of the peace. In the spring of 1906 he came to LeRoy and purchased forty acres of land in section 22, which he has improved and developed, erecting a fine frame house, henneries, bee sheds, etc. He now successfully devotes himself to the raising of fruits, poultry and bees. He has an orchard of 500 apple trees, and in addition to this raises various kinds of berries and small fruits. He has Italian bees and Barred Plymouth Rock fowls. Recently he has also taken up truck gardening for local trade. The subject of this sketch was married September 20, 1905, to Jennie E. Fairbanks, born in Fillmore county, January 1, 1870, daughter of David H. Fairbanks, now of Howard county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have one daughter, Irene, born June 29, 1906.

Edward Shay, a substantial farmer of Bennington township, was born at Gilbert Station, Illinois, March 18, 1863, son of Michael and Ann (Doraty) Shay. At five years of age, after his father's death, he was brought by his mother to Olmsted county, and here he was reared, receiving his education in the public schools of Mower and Olmsted counties. After leaving school he worked out for a few years, and then in partnership with his brother John, purchased 240 acres in section 25, Bennington township. The brothers farmed together until 1892, when they divided up the land, and Edward began for himself. He has added to this land until he has 400 acres located in sections 25 and 23, Bennington township. He has erected suitable buildings, and

here he follows general farming, raising the usual crops and breeding to Dunham cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery of Ostrander, a Democrat in politics, and a Catholic in religion. The parents of Edward Shay came to America from Ireland as children. They settled in Gilbert Station, Illinois, married there, and there Michael, the father, died in 1866, leaving six children. They are: Patrick, now deceased; Bridget, of Elkton; Johannah, of Cedar Falls, Iowa; Mary, of Spring Valley, and Edward and John. Mrs. Ann Shay, after the death of her husband, came to Minnesota with her family in 1868 and located in Olmsted county, where she married Daniel Shay, who died in 1895, she following him to the grave, January 27, 1909. This union was blessed with one daughter, Alice. She received an excellent education, taught school a number of years, and was married, June 29, 1910, to William Beach, grandson of William Beach, a Mower county pioneer. Mr. and Mrs. Beach make their home with Edward Shay.

John Shay was born in Gilbert Station, Illinois, in April, 1865. He came to Minnesota with his mother, located in Mower county later, and continued farming as a partner of his brother Edward until 1892, when they divided their property. He now has 480 acres of his own, all under cultivation and adorned with new buildings which he has erected. Mr. Shay was married November 25, 1891, to Mary M. Meehan, daughter of John Meehan, a pioneer of Bennington township. Four children have crowned this union: Edward M., Lawrence, Kate and May.

John M. Huber, scientific farmer and stock breeder of LeRoy township, is an excellent representative of the modern type of farmer. He believes that farm life should be the most attractive life there is, and accordingly he has his residence equipped with all the latest conveniences and has purchased machinery which greatly simplifies his work. John M. Huber was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1863, son of Joseph and Maria (Schnitzer) Huber, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. They came to America in 1848, lived two years in New Jersey, went to Pittsburg, where they remained until 1880, then located near Madison, Wisconsin, and farmed, Joseph dying in December, 1884, and Maria now being a resident of Stoughton, Wisconsin. The subject of this sketch received his education in Pennsylvania and grew to manhood on the farm, being reared to agricultural pursuits. For many years he farmed with his father near Madison, but after his father's death went to Nebraska, where he farmed until 1886, in which year he returned to Wisconsin. Two years later he again went to Nebraska, and farmed in Lancaster county until 1899, when he sold his farm of 120 acres and purchased 100 acres near Brooklyn, Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1909 he came

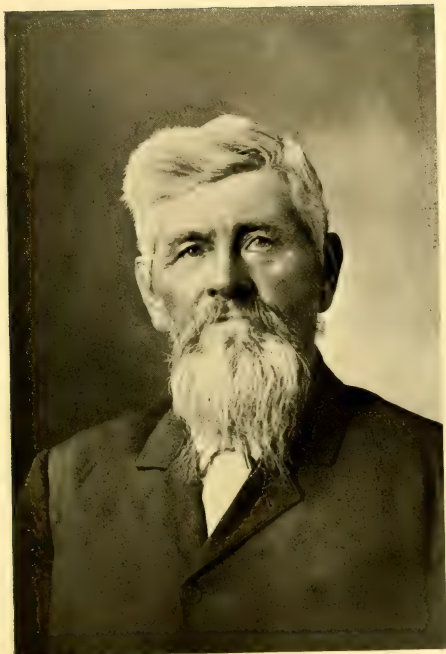
to Mower county and purchased, with his brother Fred, the old Leach farm of 860 acres in LeRoy township. He has erected the finest residence in LeRoy township, at a cost of over \$5,000, and has all the latest modern improvements throughout, including running hot and cold water, hot water furnace, bath room and sanitary conveniences. He has also erected a roomy barn, 40x84 feet. The farm is in a high stage of cultivation, 640 acres being tilled, 200 acres pasture and twenty acres timber. Mr. Huber makes a specialty of Hereford cattle for beef purposes, having about 200 head. He also breeds Percheron horses and Chester White hogs, exclusively, and pays much attention to corn and oats, having planted over 200 acres of corn this year. Mr. Huber is a Democrat. The subject of this sketch was married March 3, 1887, at Blooming Grove, Wisconsin, to Anna Kleine, daughter of Karl and Mary (Schantz) Kleine. Mrs. Huber was born at Cottage Grove, Wisconsin, September 20, 1859. Her mother came to this country at ten years of age and her father at eighteen. They were married at Cottage Grove, and there spent their days farming, the father dying in November, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Huber are the parents of seven children, as follows: Gertrude A. was born in Blooming Grove, Wisconsin, February 21, 1888, lives at home and is a teacher. Francis M. was born in Emerald, Nebraska, September 29, 1889, and is the wife of Christ Bolk, a farmer of Sheffield, Iowa. Dora E. was born January 1, 1891, Matthew J., April 19, 1892, Carl J., October 5, 1893, Henry A., August 15, 1896, all at Emerald, Nebraska. Lizzie W. was born in Oregon, Wisconsin, November 24, 1900. All the children, except the married daughter, are at home.

F. C. Garbish is one of the prosperous men of Waltham. He was one of the first aldermen of the village and faithfully served in the position until 1908. In addition to this he has been eleven years treasurer of the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery, and nine years treasurer of St. Michael's German Lutheran church. Also director of the German Lutheran Hospital at St. Paul. F. C. Garbish was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, July 10, 1855, son of George and Elizabeth (Gierach) Garbish. George Garbish was born in Kosel, Germany, in 1825 and came to America in 1839 at the age of fourteen years. After a year in Albany and three years in Buffalo, he took up his residence in Milwaukee in 1843, but after a short stay there, went to Kirchhayn, Washington county, Wisconsin, where he farmed until his death in 1861, having in the meantime, April 20, 1847, married Elizabeth Gierach. After his death his wife and oldest son, August, operated the farm for a time, after which Mrs. Garbish sold the farm to her son-in-law. The subject of this sketch remained at home until fifteen years of age, and then worked out in Wisconsin

for two years. At the age of seventeen he came to Waltham, Mower county, but four years later went to Montana and the Dakotas for three years. Subsequently he came back to Waltham, purchased a farm in section 10, and has since continued to make his residence here. October 12, 1884, F. C. Garbish married Amelia, daughter of Carl and Bertha (Kopke) Zeimer. This union has resulted in six children: Selma, William, George, Hubert, Adolph and Adaline. Selma married William Schmeling, and they have three children, Werner, Erma and Arthur. George is a barber in the village of Waltham. Hubert is with his uncle, foreman at Vicksburg, Miss. The rest of the family are at home.

Soren Englesen, the pioneer Norwegian of the town of LeRoy, now deceased, was a prominent man in the upbuilding of the community, and his death was sincerely mourned. He was born in Norway, December 15, 1829, and attended school until he was sixteen years of age, at which time he took up farming. May 1, 1854, he left his native land for America, and after a stormy voyage landed at Quebec. He went directly to LaSalle county, Illinois, and there remained three years, engaged in farming. In 1857, in company with his brother-in-law, he started to find a home in Minnesota. They came to Dunleith on the cars, and then took a boat to Brownsville, from which place they came on foot to Mower county. They passed through LeRoy township to Adams, and there bought a pair of steers. Then they returned to LeRoy and selected two claims, building a shanty of poles and sod on the line, so that it would answer for both claims. After proving up their claims they returned to Illinois. Soren Englesen was married in 1860 to Martha Fuglesteen, likewise a native of Norway. In the spring of 1861 they started for their new home. Soren left his wife at McGregor, and came on foot to LeRoy, where he bought a pair of oxen and then returned for his wife. He first built a log cabin and in this lived for a number of years until he replaced it with a large frame residence. He prospered as the years went by and was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank, of LeRoy. Soren Englesen died February 8, 1904, and his wife, July 14, 1909. They had two children: Emily, wife of Dr. O. A. Oreson, of Duluth, and Samuel B., a resident of LeRoy township.

Samuel B. Englesen was born March 10, 1868, on the farm in LeRoy township, where he still resides, son of Soren and Martha Englesen. He received his education in the district schools, and took one term in the Decorah Institute at Decorah, Iowa. Then he returned to the home place and farmed with his father. Since his father's death he has rented the farm, but still looks after his land and livestock. He also has other interests, being a director in the First National Bank at LeRoy, and a stockholder in the Farm-



SOREN ENGELSEN.

ers Telephone Company, of Ostrander, Fillmore county, as well as in the Farmers' elevator in the same village. He is a Republican in politics and for some time was clerk of his school district.

George R. Church, a retired farmer living in Waltham village, was born in Ulster county, New York, December 5, 1838, son of Adam and Elizabeth A. (Rhoades) Church, who brought their family west in 1843, and settled in New Berlin, ten miles from Milwaukee. George R. grew to manhood in Wisconsin, and in 1867 came to Mower county, starting farming on section 22, Waltham township. There he lived until 1894, when he sold his farm to his son Lewis, and moved to the village of Waltham, where he now lives. While on his farm, Mr. Church served as pathmaster seven years, and was also on the school board. He has been a member of the G. A. R. for many years. The subject of this sketch married, for his first wife, Susan Hannah, and by her had two children, one of whom, Lewis, is living. For his second wife he married Mrs. Alice Johnson, who was born in Roxbury, Washington county, Vermont, daughter of Samuel Waterman, and at the time of her marriage to Mr. Church, widow of Lewis Johnson.

Mr. Church is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war. He enlisted in 1862 in Company G, Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged at the close of the conflict. His service included participation in the activities about Spanish Forts, and the battle of Helena.

Arne K. Rebne, a prosperous resident of Clayton township, was born in Norway in 1861, and lived there until he was sixteen years of age, at which time he came to America. From New York, in which city he landed, he came directly to Adams, and worked nine years as a farm hand. Then he rented land in the town of Clayton, for more than twenty years, and there followed general farming. In 1891 he purchased 121 acres in section 30, township of Clayton, but did not move onto this land until 1906, when he erected a comfortable home in which he took up his residence. Later he erected the other buildings necessary for the housing of his stock, crops and machinery. He now raises the usual crops, breeds cattle for beef and dairy purposes, sells cream to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, devotes some of his time to raising Chester White hogs, and also has a fine flock of poultry for home use and the market. He is a republican in politics, and has been a member of the school board of district 83 for nine years. He is a stockholder in the Adams creamery. Mr. Rebne was married in September, 1886, to Isabell Wiste, of this county, and this union has been blessed with three children: Clarence, Alma and Stella. The two younger attend school. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Adolph Bhend, a well-thought-of farmer of LeRoy township, was born in Switzerland, April 4, 1878, son of Frederick and Marie (Kloppenstein) Bhend, who came to America in 1891 and located at Dayton, Wisconsin, acquired 240 acres in Cainth, Wisconsin, and started farming, an occupation which they still continue in that place. Adolph received his earlier education in the schools of Switzerland, and graduated therefrom. After coming to America with his parents, he attended the high school at Monticello, Wisconsin. July 2, 1898, he came to Mower county, and rented 400 acres from the Hon. John Frank, tilling this tract eight years. Then he rented his wife's father's farm of 240 acres in section 7, LeRoy township, and on this tract he has since continued to conduct farming operations. Mr. Bhend is an independent voter, is serving as road overseer, belongs to the Masons, and has been senior deacon of the lodge at LeRoy several terms. He attends the Presbyterian church. The subject of this sketch was married November 20, 1906, to Fannie E. Mahoney, daughter of John Mahoney, now deceased, and they have one child, Marcella E., born October 16, 1907.

John Mahoney, now deceased, for many years a farmer of LeRoy township, was born in County Cork, Ireland, November 5, 1848, youngest child of John Mahoney, who came to America in 1859, located in Mower county in 1866, and died in 1878. John, the subject of this sketch, came to America with his father at eleven years of age, living for a time in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and then coming to Mower county in 1866. He acquired the southwest quarter of section 7, LeRoy township, broke and improved the land, erected buildings, and a fine home, increased his holdings from time to time, and carried on general farming until his lamented death. He was well thought of in the community, and was a member of the Masonic Lodge and chapter and commandery at Austin. The subject of this sketch was married April 15, 1877, to Sarah L. Smith, daughter of Charley and Fannie (Rawley) Smith, and this union was blessed with three children: Fannie E., Mary E. and Iva R.

Peder W. Jansen is a hard-working farmer at Sargeant township, and possesses an excellent place upon which he successfully conducts farming operations. He was born in Denmark, August 20, 1860, son of Jens Jansen, who is still living in Denmark, where he is well thought of. Peder W. came to America in 1892, went to Michigan, remained there three years, and then came to Rockdale, Minnesota, where he stayed a similar period. Then he purchased a farm in Lincoln county, also in this state, where he also lived three years. At the end of this period he removed to Sargeant township, and settled in the northeast quarter of section 15, where he purchased 160 acres of land. In 1901 he erected a

fine dwelling, and also constructed other necessary buildings. Mr. Jensan has never sought public office, but has served a number of years at pathmaster. He married Carrie Johnson, daughter of John Anerson, and they have eight children: Emma (deceased), Helena (deceased), Jens, Henry, Walter, Anton, Clara and Ulma F. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. It is worthy of note that Mr. Jensan's brother and sister, as well as his father, are still living in Denmark. His mother is dead.

G. H. Hadland, for many years supervisor of Bennington township, was born in Norway, May 26, 1845, son of Herbjorn Gunnufson and Aagot Torgersdatter, natives of Norway, in which country they both died, the father in 1875 and the mother in 1902. The subject of this sketch received his education in Norway, and learned the tailor trade, which he followed until coming to America in 1867. After working out as a farm hand in Bloomfield, Minnesota, for some eight years, he came to Mower county in 1875, and purchased eighty acres in section 23, Bennington. This land he broke and developed, and added to it until he now owns 240 acres in sections 21, 22 and 23, all in Bennington township. On this place he carries on general farming, raises graded short-horns for beef and dairy, and also raises swine and poultry. Aside from his position on the town board, he has been clerk of district 85 for sixteen years in succession. He has also been treasurer of the Bennington Norwegian Lutheran church since its organization. The neighboring village of Ostrander counts him as a stockholder in its elevator and creamery. The subject of this sketch was married June 23, 1877, to Julia Knutson Hadland, born in Norway, December 20, 1843. This union has been blessed with six children: Henry A., born April 15, 1878; Carl A., born October 8, 1879; Oscar T., born October 15, 1880, and died September 3, 1881; Oscar T., born December 13, 1881, and died October 25, 1909; Anna C., born April 4, 1883, a student in the Morehead State Normal school, and Albert C., born March 12, 1887.

B. A. Benson, industrious farmer, and assessor of the town of Clayton, was born on the Atlantic ocean, June 1, 1867, while his parents, Andrew and Molina Benson, were on their way from Norway to America. Upon their arrival in America, the family came to Mower county, and the father worked out for several years in Marshall township, afterwards purchasing eighty acres in Clayton township, where he followed diversified farming the remainder of his life. B. A. Benson was educated in the Mower county schools, worked on the farm with his father, and at the age of twenty-one years started in life for himself by renting land. Four years later he purchased eighty acres of land in section 31, Clayton township, adjoining his father's eighty. He now owns a quarter section, and its excellent appearance is due to his unre-

mitting toil. He performed the difficult task of breaking the land, and this done, he erected comfortable buildings, planted trees, installed modern machinery and bought a suitable complement of tools. Aside from carrying on general farming, he raises cattle for beef and dairy purposes and sells cream to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, in which he is one of the stockholders, and of which he was one year a director. Mr. Benson is a Republican in politics, has been assessor nine years, and was school clerk of district 83 for ten years. The subject of this sketch was married May 15, 1887, to Anna Johnson, and this union has been blessed with six children. Alfred, the oldest, is a clerk in Adams village, while Oscar, John, Mabel, Bertha and Josie are all at home.

John T. Johnson, a hard working farmer of LeRoy township, was born in Norway, July 4, 1855, son of John and Jonetta (Jacobson) Johnson, who lived and died in Norway. John T. received his early education in Norway, and worked out as a farm hand until coming to America in 1875. In 1876 he came to LeRoy and worked for C. Hambrecht for four years. Then for a similar period he was manager and foreman for the F. M. Barrett stock farm of Lodi township. In 1889 he rented a farm in Iowa, but lived in LeRoy. Then in September, 1890, he purchased eighty acres in section 7, LeRoy township. His wife owns forty acres, and the farm therefore takes in 120 acres. On this place he conducts general farming. He is an independent voter. John T. Johnson was married July 2, 1880, to Electa B. Huntley, daughter of P. F. and Eunice C. (Edison) Huntley, the former of whom died October 27, 1893, and the latter March 22, 1901. Mrs. Johnson was born May 15, 1858, and has borne to her husband six children: Gertrude B. was born June 1, 1885, married Orrin N. Upham, of Charles City, and has two children, Vivian V. and Vernon. Rinda M. was born December 14, 1887, and lives in Waterloo, Iowa. Maine H. was born December 23, 1888, and lives in Charles City, Iowa. John R. was born June 7, 1898, and lives at home. Pennanus A. was born April 9, 1881, and died December 5, 1882. Eunice A. was born July 21, 1883, and died September 19, 1884. Mr. Johnson is a believer in fair dealing and honesty.

Ole Alfson Quale, an honored and respected resident of Clayton township, was born in Norway in 1842, and came to America in 1864, landing in Quebec. Then he settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and remained fourteen years, working as a farm hand. By hard work and frugality he accumulated sufficient funds to purchase some land of his own, and he accordingly came to Mower county and purchased eight acres in section 20. This he afterward increased by another eighty acres. In the early days he devoted much of his attention to raising grain and flax,

but in later years turned his energies to diversified farming and cattle breeding, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle. For the past five years he has rented his farm. He is a Republican in politics, was road overseer eight years and director of school district 83 three years. He is a communicant of the Synods church. Mr. Quale was married March 25, 1873, to Karne Anderson, a native of Norway, and they have six children: Adolph; Olas, a carpenter in Austin; Clara, now Mrs. Robert Anderson, of Marshall; Jennie, now Mrs. Ed. Wint, of Austin; Nels, a carpenter living at home, and Sophia, who is dead.

Nels T. Miland is one of the leading citizens of Bennington township, and has taken a most active part in his school district, his township and his church. He was born in Tin Telmarken, Norway, September 11, 1857, son of Thom N. and Aagaat Olson Miland, also natives of Tin Telmarken, Norway. The family came to America in 1869, when Nels T. was but twelve years of age, locating in Fillmore county, near Harmony, where Thom died the following year. His wife then brought the family to Bloomfield township in the same county, and there they endured all the hardships incident to pioneer days. Nels T. Miland came to Bennington township in 1879 and engaged in farming. In 1888, with his brother Tom, he purchased 160 acres of land in section 23, and there farmed on his half of the tract for five years. Then he sold this tract and purchased 160 acres in section 10, Bennington township, where he is now located. He erected new barns and all outbuildings and has followed general farming, breeding Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs. He has also been greatly interested in Percheron horses, being at one time a stockholder and director in The Bennington-Bever Percheron Horse Company. Mr. Miland is an independent voter, has served as supervisor of the township and as justice of the peace, as well as being assessor for twelve years until 1911. He is now clerk of district 95, and has been secretary of the Bennington United Lutheran church since its organization. The village of Ostrander counts him as a stockholder in its Co-operative creamery and elevator, and in the latter institution he is also a director. The subject of this sketch was married March 9, 1885, to Clara Erickson, a native of Norway, who has proven a most able helpmeet through life. Their home has been brightened by the arrival of eight children: Dora, Amanda, Oscar, Edward, Gunvick, Theodore, Sigurd and Glenn. Dora is the wife of Martin Hettletved, of Zumbrota, Goodhue county, and the rest are at home.

Henry Grimm, an honored figure in the life of Sargeant, was born in Beaverdam township, Wisconsin, July 7, 1847, son of John F. and Barbara (Graessle) Grimm, both natives of Germany. John F. Grimm came to America about 1831, lived in Pennsyl-

vania for a time, went to Ohio, and was there married, after which he went to Illinois and stayed a year, later taking up his residence in Wisconsin. In 1862 he came to Minnesota with his family of eleven children and settled in Rochester. Henry was taken to Rochester by his father when fifteen years of age, and there spent his young manhood. In 1885 he came to Sargeant county, purchased a farm in section 16, and followed farming some twenty-five years. In 1910 he moved to the village, where he now lives, having practically retired from active life. He occupied many township offices during his residence on the farm, and was a prominent man in many ways. He married Caroline Martin and they have four children. Frank married Louisa Peterson and has a daughter, Leora. Leroy A. married Alma Peterson. The other two are Ralph M. and Hilda C. Ralph M. is at present assistant cashier in Sargeant State Bank.

The Grimm Brothers. Franklin and LeRoy A. Grimm have kept a hardware store in Sargeant village since 1907, and their honesty and ability have built up a large trade. The brothers were born in Kalmer township, Olmsted county, their parents being Henry and Caroline (Martin) Grimm. In the family were also two other children, Hilda C. and Ralph M. Franklin and LeRoy A. were raised on a farm, received good educations, and remained at home until attaining manhood's estate. They now do business under the firm name of the Grimm Brothers. Franklin married Louise M. Peterson, daughter of Nels Peterson, and has one child, Leora Frances. LeRoy A. married Alma J. Peterson. Franklin Grimm is a member of the Modern Woodmen and of the Royal Neighbors, and is at present village recorder and postmaster. LeRoy A. is also a member of the Modern Woodmen and is at present assistant postmaster.

John Johnson and Dora Hanson, his wife, were born in Norway, and came to America in 1866, locating near Madison, Wisconsin, and engaging in farm work until 1872, in which year they came to LeRoy township, purchased 150 acres of wild land in section 12, broke and improved the same, and followed general farming until 1890, when they turned the place over to their son, John J. and retired, John dying May 14, 1892, and Dora, January 21, 1891. They had two children. John J., already mentioned, is the younger. Julia, the older child, married O. P. Johnson and died in November, 1889.

John J. Johnson, one of the prominent farmers of LeRoy township, was born in Norway, January 14, 1866, son of John and Dora (Hanson) Johnson. He came to America with his parents in 1866, and to Mower county in 1872. After leaving school he took up farming with his father until 1890, when he took charge of the home farm. To the farm which he inherited he has added

eighty acres more, making in all 235 acres. Since acquiring the farm he has erected a modern home and suitable outbuildings. In 1895 he built a barn, and ten years later, when this structure was destroyed by lightning, he rebuilt one 44x62. On this farm he conducts general farming, raises Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs, and Belgium and Norman horses. He is a Republican in politics, was a director of school district 1 seven years, and is now serving his second year as clerk. He owns stock in the creamery and in the elevator at Ostrander. Mr. Johnson was married March 20, 1890, to Martha Prestegard, daughter of Henry Prestegard, of Owatonna. This union has resulted in seven children: Dell, Dena, Minnie, Hannah, Joseph, Henry and George. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

William H. Bingham, cement contractor, is one of the representative citizens of LeRoy township. He was born in County Down, Ireland, September 15, 1866, son of William and Maggie (McCloy) Bingham, also natives of County Down, Ireland. The parents came to America in 1868, and located in Brookline, Massachusetts, where William engaged as a coachman, following this occupation until his death in 1903, his wife following him to the grave two years later, in December, 1905. William H. remained in Ireland until sixteen years of age, and then came to America, locating in Brookline, Massachusetts, for a period of eight years. Then he lived in Illinois four years and then in Dickinson county, Iowa. In 1901 he came to LeRoy and engaged in cement work and contracting. Later he started manufacturing cement blocks, brick, and everything in the cement line, including posts, curbing, cisterns and tanks. He also does all the cement walk business in Le Roy. In addition to his business here he has 160 acres in Ransom county, North Dakota. The subject of this sketch was married October 21, 1886, to Marian Graham, born in Ireland March 2, 1858, daughter of John and Mary (Dolan) Graham, natives of Ireland, where they were born and where they died. Mr. and Mrs. Bingham are the parents of four children: Ellen M., a telephone operator at LeRoy; Martha A., a school teacher at Waubay, South Dakota; Maggie C., a school teacher in district 52, LeRoy, and Lizzie C., a student in the LeRoy high school. Mr. and Mrs. Bingham have given all their children a good education, and the children, in turn, have shown their appreciation by the excellent work they have done in the schools. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

Hubbard Carey, one of the well known men of the county, has taken his part in the upbuilding of Adams, by serving in various township and village offices, and has also served the county with distinction on the floors of the lower house of the Minnesota state legislature. He was born in Fox Lake, Lake County, Illinois, No-

vember 19, 1857, son of Mathias and Anna M. (Justin) Carey. After receiving his early education in Adams township, to which locality he was brought by his parents at one year of age, he took a course in St. Peter's college at Mankato. Thus equipped for life, he remained at home two years on the farm, and then taught school for one year. Subsequently he again worked on the home farm for a short period, and then became a grain buyer at Adams village, an occupation he followed for twelve years. Following this he clerked in a store four years, but during the time of his clerkship he also engaged in the real estate business, dealing largely in Dakota lands. Since that time he has lived practically retired from business, but has been interested in politics and in other ventures. Mr. Carey is a Republican in politics. Before the village of Adams was incorporated he served several terms as clerk of the township, and was also assessor for a considerable period. At the organization of the village of Adams he became clerk and served continuously until 1906, his judgment as a member of the village council being highly valued. In 1908, he was elected to the legislature, and served his term of two years with credit. He has also taken an interest in the industrial development of the community, and is a stockholder in the LeRoy Telephone Company. The subject of this sketch was married in January, 1881, to Mary Thelen, who has proved an able helpmeet in all his undertakings. The family faith is that of the Catholic church.

Mathias Carey and Ann M. Justin, his wife, were born on the Rhine, in Germany, were there married, and came to America in 1854, locating in Fox Lake, Lake county, Illinois, there engaging in farming until the spring of 1858, when they came to Minnesota, purchased 160 acres of government land at \$1.25 per acre, in section 20, Adams township, this county, which at the time was wild prairie land. This they developed, built a log house, and in this lived until 1871, when a modern frame house was erected, suitable outbuildings being completed at the same time. To his original claim he added a purchase of 160 acres, making in all a fine farm of 320 acres. On this place, Mathias Carey conducted general farming until 1902, when he retired and moved to the village of Adams. Two years later, July 31, 1904, he died. His wife followed him to the grave March 13, 1906. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom nine are now living. They are: J. H., a merchant at Adams; Hubbard; Mrs. Katherine Schmitz; Nicholas, of Minneapolis; Mrs. Mary Regner, of Austin; John M., of Spring Valley; Tony, of Saskatoon, Canada; Joseph, of Adams; and Jacob of Spring Valley. Those deceased are Katharine, Gertrude and one who died in infancy.

H. L. Anderson is a prominent man in Waltham township. He

was born in Langeland, Denmark, January 3, 1850, son of Hans and Martha Anderson. He came to America in 1872, remained two years at Lake Superior, Michigan, then came to Mower county and worked as a farm hand in Pleasant Valley township two years. Then he started farming on his own account in the township of Clayton. It was in 1883 that he came to Waltham township and settled in section 14. His farm originally consisted of 80 acres, and this he has since increased to 240 acres. Here he successfully conducts general farming and stock raising. Mr. Anderson was married some years ago to Annie S. Peterson, daughter of Nels Peterson, and they have six children: Ernest M., Alfred C., Edward T., Clara M., Bert L. and Lester H.

Frederick M. Guy was born in Bennington township, June 19, 1872, son of Stephen S. and Hannah (Neil) Guy, the pioneers. He was educated in the district schools of Bennington township, and then engaged in farming on the old homestead, looking after the interests of his widowed mother until her death, at which time the farm reverted to him. He is now engaged in general farming, and raises stock and grain. He attends the Baptist church, votes the Democratic ticket and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. The subject of this sketch was married October 7, 1896, to Anna Cooper, daughter of Robert and Rhoda (Hague) Cooper, and this union has resulted in seven children, five of whom are living and two dead. They are: William F. born October 21, 1897; Myrtle L., born July 22, 1899; Ida May, born July 31, 1901, and died September 29, 1906; Hazel E., born July 31, 1903; Harley V., born October 10, 1906; Clara E., born November 23, 1908, and died March 1, 1910; Kenneth E., born November 1, 1910.

James Guy, a pioneer of Bennington township, was born in England, as was his wife, Frances Turner. They came to America in 1835 and located in Troy, New York. In 1857, James Guy, with his three sons, Henry, Joab and Stephen, came to Mower county and took up their residence in a part of Bennington afterward called the Guy settlement. James Guy lived to a good old age and died in 1879. His wife died in 1870.

Jonathan Guy was born in Sussex, England, February 10, 1831, son of James and Frances (Turner) Guy, who brought him to America in 1835. He was reared in Troy, New York, and there remained until 1862, when he came west and purchased eighty acres in section 13, Bennington township, where he has since lived and carried on general farming. He has never eared to seek public life, but has served as road overseer and as justice of the peace. By his first wife, Nancy Prim, he had five children: Elizabeth, Nancy M., Frances, Melvin and John H. September 18, 1869, he married Elizabeth Hughes, who was born in Wales,

March 25, 1830. This union has resulted in two children: James W. and Hattie L.

Robert Cooper, deceased, was born in England, March 5, 1843, came to America with his parents in 1853, lived in Illinois for a time and then came with them to Spring Valley, Minnesota. In 1857, he came with his parents to Bennington, and farmed with his father, William Cooper, until 1874, when he purchased eighty acres in section 22, where he made his home and carried on general farming, increasing his holdings in time to 240 acres. In 1898 he removed to Spring Valley, and there died, November 29, 1904. He was married January 23, 1871, to Rhoda Hague, whose parents, Noah and Susanna (Doxey) Hague, were early settlers of Bennington township, the former dying December 5, 1882, and the latter September 26, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were the parents of eleven children: Mary E., Noah W., Francis R., Annie B., John A., Samuel R., Archie A., Ellan M., Ida M., Roy A. and Clair A.

Hans Rudolph, a retired farmer, is one of the respected residents of LeRoy village. He was born in Denmark, April 24, 1856, son of George and Christina Rudolph, both of whom lived and died in the old country. Hans received his education in his native country, and in 1874 came to America, stopping off for a few months in Illinois and then coming to Minnesota where, until 1884, he worked out as a farm hand. Then he rented land for a time, and later purchased a tract of land in Howard county, Iowa, where he farmed for six years. At the end of that period he purchased 240 acres in LeRoy township, and followed farming for many years. When his health became impaired he retired, and in 1906 took up his residence in the village. In February, 1911, he purchased the residence adjoining his own home. Mr. Rudolph was married February 28, 1884, to Annie Marie Krogh, daughter of George and Marie Krogh, natives of Denmark. Mrs. Rudolph was born in Denmark April 3, 1851, and came to this country with her parents. She now makes a home for her father, her mother being dead. Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph have two children: Elmer C. is an attorney in Towner, McHenry county, North Dakota, and George P. lives in LeRoy.

T. S. Bohn was born in Norway July 7, 1842, came to America in 1867, and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, later coming to Grand Meadow, where he married Annie Skaran, who was born in Norway, August 30, 1850, and came to America in 1861. He then settled on a farm in Clayton township. Later he moved to Adams village and followed his trade as blacksmith for eight years; from there he moved to his Clayton farm, then back to Grand Meadow, where he died November 26, 1909. His widow is still living.

Simon T. Bohn, an industrious farmer of Clayton township, was born May 26, 1881, son of T. S. and Annie Bohn. He was reared in Grand Meadow, his natal place, attended the schools there and in Adams, when quite young started to work out as a farm hand. In 1906, Simon T. Bohn purchased the farm of 160 acres in section 17, Clayton township, and here he has since resided, successfully conducting general farming. He keeps forty to fifty head of cattle, thirty to forty Chester White hogs, and five Norman horses. Mr. Bohn was married December 31, 1902, to Josephine Olena Wiste, born May 5, 1883, in Marshall township, and they have two children: Alice Helen, born February 20, 1906, and Aaron Theodore, born February 7, 1909.

Jacob Weisel, for many years prominent in the business and political life of Austin, was born in Hessen Darmstadt, Germany, June 24, 1839. His education was received in the Fatherland previous to his emigration to America with his parents in 1851. After living two years with his parents in the new home in Greenlake county, Wisconsin, he commenced his struggle for self maintenance, his first employment being in the Wisconsin lumber camps, later going to St. Louis, Missouri, and working as a carpenter for a couple of years. Then returning to Wisconsin, he engaged in farming until 1875, when he removed to Austin and embarked in the brewery business, the destruction of his plant by fire cutting short a very prosperous business four years later. After this disaster he at once became connected with the Schlitz Brewing Company as agent and manager for the Austin branch of the company, in which capacity he remained until his retirement from active life ten years later. He is a stockholder in the George A. Hormel packing company, of Austin, treasurer of the Austin Building and Loan Association, and at one time was a director of the Citizen's National bank, of Austin, and treasurer of the Austin Creamery Association. Mr. Weisel also owns a highly improved farm in Lansing township, this county, 320 acres, to which he still devotes much of his attention. His beautiful home at 213 Water street was built by himself. In politics he is a staunch Democrat and served his city well during his nine years as alderman, being elected for eight years from the third ward and for one at large. He is affiliated with the Masonic order, and is Past Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in which lodge he served several years as treasurer. December 24, 1861, he was married to Elizabeth Forcey, by whom he has six daughters: Eliza, now Mrs. August King, of Superior, Wisconsin; Julia, Ida, Mary, Ella, and Veta, married to Lewis Dewitt, of Chicago. The family attend the Episcopal church. George and Katherine (Olie) Weisel, parents of our subject, came over from Germany in 1851, first locating in Greenlake

county, Wisconsin, and later in Portage, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1861. They then returned to Greenlake county, the father following farming until 1878, when he retired and removed to Cambria, Columbia county, Wisconsin, later coming to Austin, where he died in 1900. His wife died in 1898.

A. T. Boen, a venerable resident of Pleasant Valley township, was born in Norway, October 24, 1833. He was educated in Norway, spent his early life there, and in 1862 came to America. After living a short time in Iowa, he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres in section 36, Pleasant Valley. He now owns 120 acres. This farm he developed and improved, erected the necessary buildings and planted trees. When he first purchased his place he raised grain, but later went into dairying, and owned some twenty milch cows. Three years ago he rented his land and now lives a retired life. He is a Lutheran in religion and an independent in politics. It is worthy of note that after he had been in this country long enough to become imbued with patriotic sentiments, he determined to enlist in the Union army. On reaching Rochester, where the enlistment office was located, he heard the wild ringing of the bells and the blowing of whistles, and was told that Lee had surrendered. On October 15, 1864, Mr. Boen married Sarah Knutson. Of their six children two are living. They are: Theodore, who is employed in an auto garage in LeRoy, and Annie, who is the wife of Oscar Jacobson, a farmer of Mower county. The father of A. T. Boen was Navn Tron Boen and his mother was Navn er Signi.

Iver Johnson, a progressive citizen of Lodi township, was born in Norway, son of John Everson. The family came to America when young Iver was between three and four years old, landing in New York city from the boat Columbus, after a voyage of twelve weeks and four days. The family first located in Dane county, Wisconsin, where John Everson, the father, lived until his death, July 10, 1904. Iver was educated in the Dane county schools, and at the age of ten years, when his mother died, went to live with an uncle. Then he worked out until 1874, and in that year came to Minnesota and worked in Freeborn county for a year. Subsequently he spent six months around his old home in Wisconsin, and then came to LeRoy, where he worked out with his teams. The same year he purchased 80 acres in section 23, Lodi township, and here he has since carried on general farming. He now owns 200 acres of excellent land. The comfortable home which adorns the place was erected in 1898, and many evergreens have also been set out to beautify the farm. Mr. Johnson raises cattle for beef and dairy and has about 40 Herefords. In addition to this he has about eleven brood sows. The subject of this sketch is a Republican, and served for many years as a member of

the school board of district 67. He was married November 21, 1878, to Betsy Holverson, of Dane county. They have three children: Mary, a nurse in the state hospital at St. Peter; John, a mail carrier in Taopi; and Eva Josephine, who lives at home and attends school. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

O. N. Hegg, who at one time served Bennington as town clerk for eight consecutive years, is one of the esteemed and respected farmers of his neighborhood. He was born in Winnesheik county, Iowa, March 9, 1863, son of A. O. and Gunhild (Malen) Hegg, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1854, located in Winnesheik county, Iowa, and there remained until 1901, when they removed to Decorah, Iowa, where Gunhild died March 6, 1910, A. O. afterward returning to the old homestead and taking up his home with his son, Adolph. O. N. Hegg received his early education in the district schools and supplemented this with a four years' course at Luther college at Decorah, Iowa. After this he returned home and engaged in farming until 1885, when on April 5, he came to Bennington township, and purchased 160 acres in section 33, later in 1894 purchasing a similar tract adjoining in section 34. This land he partly broke and cleared, and has followed general farming. Aside from the office mentioned above he has been clerk of district 102 for several years and is still serving in this capacity. He also is interested in the creamery and elevator at Ostrander, in which he owns stock. The subject of this sketch was married December 9, 1886, to Dena Christopherson, who died June 2, 1895, leaving five children: Alfred and Clarence, of Grand Meadow; George, of St. Paul; Helmer, who lives at home, and Mabel, who keeps house for her father. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and Mr. Hegg has been a trustee of the Bennington congregation for several years.

C. J. Flikki, a hard working farmer of Lodi township, was born in Norway in 1859, son of George Flikki, who is still living in that country, and is now past eighty-one years of age. The subject of this sketch came to this country in 1882. He made the voyage early in the spring, and the progress of the vessel was slow, having been on the steam boat twenty-one days from Liverpool, England. For four days the ship was ice-bound, and although Quebec was the destination, a landing was made at Halifax and the passengers taken to Quebec by rail. C. Flikki went directly to Vernon County, Wisconsin, worked there two years, went to Mower county and stayed there two years, then went to North Dakota and worked out six years, subsequently went to Goodhue county in this state, where he rented land four years, and finally came to Mower county, where he purchased land in section 27, Lodi township, and where he has since successfully

followed general farming. He is a Lutheran in religion and a Republican in politics. His interest in education is shown by the fact that he has served many years as a member of the school board of district 80. In 1890, Mr. Flikki married Christina Thompson, of Mower county, and this union has resulted in five children: Cora Josephine, Hattie Carolina, George Urdahl, Henry Nitter and Arthur Clarence. Hattie, George and Henry are at school and doing well in their studies. It is worthy of note that in 1899 Mr. Flikki went to Norway, visited his old home, talked with old friends, and remained until April, 1900. While he was there he visited the most principal cities in that country, where his brothers are in business and also some of his relations.

Michael H. Corcoran, a well-known farmer of Clayton township, was born in Brownsville, Houston county, February 5, 1866, son of Mark and Mary Corcoran, natives of Ireland. He was educated in the county schools and remained at home on the farm until twenty-four years of age. In 1882 he purchased a quarter section in section 24, Clayton township. He now owns 240 acres in section 12 in Clayton and section 18 in Bennington. Here he has made many improvements. Seven years ago he erected his fine dwelling, and at present he is occupied in building a large new barn with a roomy cement basement. Mr. Corcoran carried on general farming, making a specialty of grain and hay raising and stock breeding. In hay he handles a large quantity of timothy and wild hay. In cattle he favors the Aberdeen Angus for beef and the Shorthorn for the dairy, and has several of each variety. He also raises Poland China hogs and has a drove of from seventy-five to one hundred. Of late years he has turned his attention to Belgian horses, and a few years ago purchased the well-known stallion Sultan, a beautiful animal weighing 1,900 pounds, and born and bred in Iowa. Mr. Corcoran is a member of the town board of supervisors, and was clerk of district 109 seven years. He is at present a director of the Farmers' Elevator at Grand Meadow. Mr. Corcoran is a member of two fraternal organizations, the Modern Woodmen of America and Knights of Columbus, Spring Valley Council, No. 1,476; is also treasurer of St. Finbar's church and a member of the building committee of the fine new brick church to be erected the coming season in Grand Meadow. The subject of this sketch was married September 21, 1897, to Ellen McLain, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Patrick and Fanny McLain. This marriage, which took place in Grand Meadow, has resulted in the following children: William Henry, J. C. and Mary E., all at home and attending school.

Mark Corcoran was born in Ireland, and in 1853 he and his wife, Mary, came to America and located in Dayton, Ohio. Three

years later they came to Brownsville, purchased eighty acres, increased this gradually to 240 acres, and here spent the remainder of their days, devoting their attention largely to grain raising.

Elgin Emigh, one of the esteemed residents of Lodi township, was born in Illinois in 1858, son of John Emigh. The family moved to Iowa when Elgin was three years of age, and he lived at home until fifteen years of age, when he started life on his own responsibility by working out as a farm hand until twenty-one years of age, when he came to Mower county, and for a year continued to work out. Then he rented land until 1894, when he purchased a forty acre tract in section 2, Lodi township, to which he later added forty acres in the same section, where he lives, and where he has erected his home and the necessary farm buildings. He now carries on intensive farming, and also breeds some horses, but makes a specialty of Percheron horses. Mr. Emigh is well liked in the community and has been a member of the town board of supervisors for seven years.

Wellington Emigh, a farmer of Lodi township, was born in Illinois in 1855, and was taken by his parents to Iowa when very young, afterward coming to Mower county. He has engaged in various lines of work and has traveled extensively. At the present time he makes his home with his brother, Elgin.

Alexander Bell, chairman of the board of supervisors of Lodi township, a position he has occupied for the past three years, was born in Cook county, Illinois, in 1846, son of Robert Bell, now deceased. The mother died when Alexander was very young, and at the age of fourteen, after attending the school in his neighborhood, he started in life for himself. He came to Mower county in 1878, and rented a farm in Clayton for one year. In the fall he moved to town and bought a place of F. Bulis. He was elected marshal in the year 1879, which office he held for four years, then was elected town mayor in 1883, which he held four years, and was school director for several years. In 1900 he rented the D. C. Wood farm of 320 acres in section 20, Lodi township. Here he follows diversified farming, raises oats, barley, corn and some wheat, and breeds cattle, horses, swine and sheep. He has forty-two head of Black Poll and twenty-five Shorthorn cattle, 160 head of Shropshire sheep, fifty head of Poland China hogs and twenty-one Percheron horses. Aside from his township position he has served seven years as a member of the school board of district 96. Mr. Bell was married in early life to Eunice Mitchell, who died in 1886. In 1888 he was married to Augusta Brunce, daughter of Fred Brunce, of Mower county, and they have seven children: Clara, Robert, Leslie, Harlen, Laura, Alexander, Jr., and Louise. All are at home, and Leslie, Harlen, Alexander, Jr., and Laura attend school.

John Sorflaten, for over nine years town chairman of Clayton has been a prominent man in the community for a long period. He is a native son of the county, born in Grand Meadow township, December 12, 1868, son of Ole and Ollie Sorflaten, who came to America from Norway in 1858, and came directly to Grand Meadow, where they purchased land and followed diversified farming the remainder of their days. John Sorflaten was educated in the county schools and later attended the Darling Business College at Rochester, Minnesota. At the age of sixteen he started life for himself by working out by the month, in which manner he continued for five years. He afterward learned the carpenter trade and followed this vocation five years also. Then he purchased eighty acres in section 21, Clayton township. This land he has developed and improved, has erected buildings, tilled the soil and planted trees. He carries on general farming, and raises Shorthorn cattle, Chester White hogs and Plymouth Rock chickens. In addition to the office mentioned above, he was town clerk four years and clerk of district 74 for nine years. The subject of this sketch was married on October 28, 1895, to Minnie Huseby, a daughter of Arne Huseby, of the town of Marshall. Eight children have blessed this union, of whom Alvin Obert, Julius Melvin, Stella and Orville William are living. The three oldest are at school. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Wallace C. Allen, stock raiser, one of the leading citizens of Clayton township, was born in Rockford, Iowa, September 28, 1877, son of Alfred and Elizabeth Allen, who have retired from farm life and are now living in the village of Rockford, Iowa. Wallace C. was educated in the county schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of twenty-two started in life for himself as a farm hand. Later he purchased 200 acres in section 6, Clayton township, where he still lives. In addition to this he owns 225 acres in Floyd county, Iowa. Mr. Allen does some general farming, but devotes the greater part of his time to stock raising. He has a fine herd of 250 Western sheep, and last fall shipped two car loads of these excellent animals to Chicago. In addition to this he has twenty head of Shorthorn cattle, thirteen head of grade Percheron horses, and a drove of Chester White pigs. The farm upon which he lives was formerly the property of C. F. Greening. Mr. Allen is an independent voter and has served four years as a member of school district 127. Being of a sociable nature he has allied himself with the Modern Woodmen. The subject of this sketch was married April 7, 1900, to Mary E. Popham, daughter of N. J. and Alice (Maynard) Popham, born in Portage, Wisconsin, but a native of Iowa at the time of her marriage, having moved there with her parents in 1895. Mr. and

Mrs. Allen have two children: Glenn, born November 19, 1901, and Ruby Julia, born February 16, 1904.

Ole A. Bergene, a modern farmer of Marshall township, was born in Norway, Nov. 20, 1855, son of Andrew and Oleaug Bergene, both now deceased. He came to America in 1878 and after landing in New York came directly to Grand Meadow, later locating in Marshall township, where he worked out six years. He also worked in the pineries in Wisconsin two winters. Some years ago he purchased eighty acres in section 35, Marshall township, where he still resides, but later has added to it so he has 200 acres in Marshall township and eighty acres in Adams township. When he first bought the farm he raised grain, but now devotes his attention to diversified farming. He has thirty-five head of cattle and sells cream to the Adams creamery, in which he is one of the stockholders. In addition to this, he has forty Poland-China hogs and ten Percheron horses. The Bergene residence was erected in 1884, and to this Mr. Bergene has added from time to time until he now has a roomy and comfortable home. He has also made many improvements on his farm and has purchased modern machinery. A Republican in politics, he has been treasurer of school district No. 65 for three years. The subject of this sketch was married March 31, 1884, to Sarah Sorflaten, and they have been blessed with seven children: Ollie, the oldest, is the wife of Ole Lunda, a farmer of Adams township. The others are: Edwin, Oscar, Annie, Ella, Selma and Orville. The four youngest attend school.

August Dettloff, Sr., for twelve years supervisor of the town of Pleasant Valley, is one of the substantial men of the community, and in addition to serving on the town board has been road overseer for a long period and member of the school board of district No. 48 for many years. He was born in Germany, May 3, 1850, son of Carl and Mary Dettloff, the former of whom is dead. The family came to America in 1867, lived a time in Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1871, came to Pleasant Valley township, where the parents purchased 160 acres in section 22. August Dettloff, Sr., the subject of this sketch, remained at home with his parents and worked on the home farm until twenty-three years of age. Then he worked out as a farm hand for three years, and subsequently worked on the railroad three years. Later he purchased 120 acres in section 27, Pleasant Valley township. This tract he has increased to 320 acres, and on this he follows general farming, having ten Norman horses, thirty head of swine and about fifty cattle. He sells cream to the Grand Meadow creamery, in which he is a stockholder. The subject of this sketch was married November 26, 1874, to Reikia Eilars, a native of Germany, who came to America with her parents and settled in Austin in 1868.

This union has resulted in ten children: Gustie married William Grimm, of Swink, Colo.; Ida married August Badger, a farmer of Olmsted county; Frank married Musette Drake, and lives in Pleasant Valley; Carl married Ella Hatfield and lives in North Dakota; Lizzie married Charles Drake, of Pleasant Valley township; August married Manda Wagner, of Frankford township; Annie married William Beiderbick, of Racine township; Walter lives in Colorado; Otto and Albert are at home and the latter attends school. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran church.

John B. Hoff, a well-known citizen of Pleasant Valley township, was born in Norway, July 24, 1849, son of Björn S. and Carrie Hoff, who came to America in 1866, bringing their family with them. The voyage was made in an old sailing boat and two months were spent on the water. After reaching America, they settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, and there father and son worked out three months, after which they rented land for a year. Subsequently they came to Mower county, Minnesota, in 1869, making the trip in an old-fashioned prairie schooner. Björn S. Hoff passed away in 1891, and his wife in 1880. Soon after coming here, John B. purchased eighty acres in section 35, Pleasant Valley township, and on this he still resides, now owning 160 acres, which he has improved and developed, planting trees and erecting buildings. His comfortable home was built in 1881 and has been kept in a state of good repair. Three years ago he retired and rented his farm to his son, Bennie, who is a hard-working young man, well thought of in the community. In 1875 John B. Hoff married Annie Lestrude and they have one son, Bennie, already mentioned. Bennie married Olena Simonson, June 6, 1906.

Hans P. Johnson, for five years chairman of the town of Pleasant Valley, was born in Norway, September 23, 1866, son of Peter A. and Karend M. Johnson, both natives of Norway. The family came to America in 1876, lived two years in Alamakee county, Iowa, then removed to Olmsted county, this state, where they lived four years. Later Peter A. purchased land in section 29, Pleasant Valley, and followed farming until his death in 1896. His widow still lives on the old homestead. Hans P. Johnson was educated in Norway and followed the fortunes of his family, assisting his father in establishing a home and working the home farm. As his father grew older, Hans P. assumed the burden of the family and farm. He has since continued to carry on general farming. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and in addition to serving the town as mentioned above has been clerk of the school board of district 47. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the M. W. A. The subject of this sketch was married January

2, 1892, to Carrie Wold, of Grand Meadow, daughter of A. H. Wold, and this union has resulted in ten children: Alfred, Hanna, Helen, Clara, Alma, Harold, Ruth, Inga, John and Arthur.

William Z. Clayton, for whom the town of Clayton is named, is still living, now making his home in Maine. He helped in the organization of the town, was its first chairman, and assisted in its progress in various ways. He was born in Freeman, Maine, in 1837, was educated in his native state, and when nineteen years of age went to Wisconsin. Later he lived in Freeborn and Winona counties, Minnesota. In 1861 he enlisted in the First Minnesota Light Artillery, was in the battles of Shiloh, Atlanta, Chattanooga, etc., and was with Sherman on his march to the sea. He was elected captain of the First Minnesota Light Artillery and inspector of artillery, with the rank of brevet major. At the close of the war he returned to Winona county, and later came to what is now the township of Clayton. Here he acquired some 2,200 acres of land. He devoted his time to real estate deals and grain raising, spending his summers here and his winters in Maine. He now makes his home in Maine with his wife, who was Laura Knowles, also a native of that state. Mr. Clayton is a thirty-second degree Mason, a compatriot of the Loyal Legion and a member of the Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum. In Bangor he has been prominent in business circles and has served as a member of the board of alderman and of the Board of Trade in that city.

Charles Clayton, a popular resident of the township named for his father, was born in Bangor, Maine, December 6, 1872, son of William Z. and Laura (Knowles) Clayton. He received his early education in the common schools of Maine, and graduated from the University of Maine, afterward taking a post-graduate course in chemistry. Then he worked about two years in the mail service in Bangor, Maine, and subsequently came to Mower county, where he has since looked after his father's interests. In addition to this he has been in the meat business two years in Wright county and in the mercantile business four years in Taopi, this county. On the farm he occupied he raises Shorthorn and Black Poll cattle and carries on general farming operations. Charles Clayton has been town clerk of the town of Clayton six years and was one year mayor of Taopi. He is a Republican, belongs to the Masonic order and attends the Congregational church. The subject of this sketch was married in June, 1898, to Ida C. Clayton, of Hartford, Conn., and they have seven children: Lawrence, Collamore, William Z., Russell, Dorathy, Ethel and Everett.

O. A. Huntley, one of the foremost farmers of Lodi township, was born in Spring Valley, January 18, 1854, son of P. F. Huntley, a native of New York state, who settled in Wisconsin in 1847.

in Iowa in 1849, later in Spring Valley, and in 1856 in Le Roy, where he homesteaded a farm and died October 27, 1893. O. A. Huntley remained with his parents on the home farm until thirty-six years of age, at which time he purchased 160 acres in sections 22 and 23, where he now owns 262 acres of good land. Like the other farmers of this vicinity, he raised grain at first, and later turned his attention to diversified farming, making a specialty of Hereford cattle for beef and dairy purposes. Mr. Huntley has erected all the buildings which now stand on his farm. He is an independent voter, and is treasurer of school district 67. He has served on the board of supervisors for the past three years. The subject of this sketch was married December 25, 1891, to Emma Caroline Erickson, daughter of Jens Erickson, and this union has been blessed with four children: Nels Elmer, born in 1892, died at the age of sixteen; Jens Oliver, born June 19, 1893; Elsie Minnie, born August 30, 1894, and Lila Marie, born June 3, 1900; all live at home. The family is well thought of in the community. P. F. Huntley settled in Spring Valley in the spring of 1853, on the land where Spring Valley now stands, and O. A. was the first white baby born in Spring Valley.

P. J. Peterson is one of the leading and substantial citizens of Lodi. He is upright, hardworking and generous, has a well-educated family, and in general stands for that which is good and admirable in the community. He was born in September, 1854, in Wisconsin, son of John and Isabel Peterson, who were born in Norway, came to America in the middle fifties, located in Wisconsin, then came to Adams township, took a homestead of 160 acres, lived three years and went to Le Roy, there bought a quarter section and remained four years, subsequently buying a farm in Iowa and living there until their death, John Peterson dying in 1867. When P. J. Peterson was twenty-one years of age, he began life on his own responsibility, and purchased 160 acres of land in section 2, Lodi township, where he still lives. In addition to this he is an extensive owner of lands elsewhere, owning, in addition to 440 acres in Lodi, 320 acres in Becker county, 160 acres in Marshall township, 80 acres in Sherburne county, 120 acres in Mille Laes county, 100 acres of timber in Aitkin county and five acres and a residence in Princeton, all in Minnesota, as well as eighty acres in Polk county, Wisconsin, and 160 acres in Clark county, North Dakota. He works all the land in Lodi himself, but rents his land outside of this county. In the early days he raised grain, but he now devotes his attention largely to live stock raising, owning eighty-three head of Hereford cattle, which he raises for beef and dairy purposes, and from thirty to seventy-five Poland-China hogs. Mr. Peterson was president of the Taopi Bank, and has served three years. He has been treasurer of the

town and of his school district for many years. The subject of this sketch was married in 1877 to Mary Reiersen, and this union has resulted in eleven children: Josephine, Emma, Nettie, John, Alfred, Minnie, Eddie, Elmer, Ruth, Roy and Pearl. All are at home except Minnie, who is in Minneapolis, and John, who attends the Northern Indiana Normal College at Valparaiso, Ind. Ruth died in infancy.

George A. Stillwell, restaurant keeper of Le Roy, was born in St. Joseph county, Michigan, December 23, 1857, son of T. V. Stillwell. When ten years of age he was brought by his parents to Mitchell, Mitchell county, Iowa, and there received his education and grew to manhood. When twenty-one years old he moved to Howard county, Iowa, engaging in farming until 1900, when he came to Le Roy township, purchased forty acres of land, and farmed until March, 1907, when he moved to the village of Le Roy. In June, 1909, he opened a first-class restaurant, which he has since successfully conducted. Mr. Stillwell has served as road overseer and as a school director. He was married March 26, 1892, to Ceola Hopkin Stillwell, born in Howard county, Iowa, November 11, 1870, daughter of Ezra and Patience (King) Hopkin. This union has been blessed with two children: Gyrdy, who lives at home, and William, who died in infancy; they have one adopted son, Van Tyle Stillwell. Mr. Stillwell votes the Republican ticket and affiliates with the M. W. A. The family attends the Baptist church.

Ezra Hopkin was one of the first settlers of Howard county, just over the line in Iowa. One of his sons, Charles Hopkin, now of Oregon, helped to build the first house erected in Le Roy. Ezra Hopkin was an extensive farmer, taught school, kept a store and served as postmaster, being a sturdy and honored old pioneer in every respect.

Hiram E. Tanner, a pioneer, was born in New York state November 26, 1817, and when a young man went with his parents to Pennsylvania. In July, 1841, he married Eliza V. Meeker, a native of New York. In November, 1856, they came west, stopping at Winona for the winter, and in the spring of the same year came to Red Rock township, Mower county, and settled in section 1, where he pre-empted land and where he lived until his death, June 8, 1880. His wife departed this life April 2, 1872. Mr. Tanner was a man of strong personality and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. A strong Republican, he held many public offices in the county, including service as county commissioner in 1871, 1873, 1874 and 1875.

De Los Tanner was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, December 26, 1847, son of Hiram E. and Eliza V. (Meeker) Tanner. He received his education in the schools of his township and has

devoted his life to farming, now owning a fine place of 360 acres, which includes the farm which his father pre-empted in the early days. He has been county commissioner four years and has served in other positions of public and private trust and honor. He is a prominent member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, F. & A. M., of Brownsdale. The subject of this sketch was married October 17, 1874, to Emma C. Langworthy, who was born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, October 5, 1850, daughter of B. F. and Sarah M. Langworthy. To Mr. and Mrs. Tanner have been born three children: Forrest O., Alice V. and Eliza M. Alice V. is the wife of John Day.

Michael Goulden was born in Ireland, and came to America in 1850, locating in Watertown, N. Y., where he was married, and where he remained until 1881, when he came to Mower county, and settled in section 19, Lodi township, where he purchased 160 acres and carried on farming until his death in 1902. His widow still lives on the home place with her son, but is in poor health. In the family were four daughters and one son. The oldest daughter is dead. Thomas lives on the home farm; Mollie is the wife of Michael Kelley, a builder in St. Paul; Winnie is the wife of a Mr. Reifuard, a molder in St. Paul; and Julia is the wife of Tony Human, a farmer in Clayton township.

Thomas Goulden, a modern farmer of Lodi township, was born in Watertown, New York, February 7, 1870, son of Michael and Margaret Goulden, natives of Ireland. He was educated in the city schools of his native place, and was brought to Lodi township by his parents as a boy of eleven years. As his father grew older he gradually took the burden of the farm work from his shoulders, and at his death took entire charge. He has added eighty acres to the original homestead, now owning 240 acres of good land in section 19, Lodi township. He is chiefly interested in diversified farming and cattle raising, breeding Hereford cattle for beef and dairy purposes, and selling cream to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, in which he is a stockholder. Mr. Goulden is a Republican, and has served as road overseer as well as school director of district 96.

Jacob Nagele has a well cared for farm in Lodi township, with excellent buildings thereon, a pleasant feature of the place being the tree-lined evergreen lane which leads to his house. Jacob Nagele was born in Germany in 1855, son of David Nagele, now deceased. Jacob came to America in 1880, landed in New York, and then located in Youngstown, Ohio, where he worked in a blast furnace for two years. Then he came to Le Roy, in this county, and after working out for three years, purchased his present place in Lodi township, on which he has erected his house, barns and other buildings. On this place he now conducts

general farming, making a specialty of his Black Poll cattle, of which he owns a herd of twenty-five head. Mr. Nagele was married in 1883 to Louise Geiger, and they have five children: William, Arthur, Katherine, Louise and Gustave. William, Arthur and Louise are at home. Katherine married Albert Bhend and lives at Corinth, Wis. Gustave died at the age of sixteen years.

George Nicolay, one of the leading farmers of Lodi township, was born in Germany in 1857, son of John Nicolay, and came to America in 1881. After landing in New York, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and there worked four years, after which he came to Mower county and worked for John Frank, of Le Roy, one year. Then he purchased land in sections 13 and 24, Lodi township, and started life as a farmer for himself. He has greatly improved the place, and a pleasant home, built in 1898, as well as numerous buildings of various descriptions, stand on the spot where he found a small dwelling when he first came here. He carried on diversified farming and breeds Poll Angus and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Nicolay attends the Presbyterian church, and votes the Republican ticket. March 15, 1885, Mr. Nicolay married Minnie Kesel, of Wisconsin, a daughter of Charles Kesel, who in 1853 came to Wisconsin from Germany, where he died eight years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Nicolay have one daughter, Lania, who married Alfred Weise, manager of the Northwestern Telephone Company, at Minneapolis. They have two children: Rollie and Nova. Mrs. Nicolay has one daughter, Daisy, by a former marriage. Daisy was married March 15, 1896, to Christ Karlen, a farmer of Lodi township. Then have two children, Leo and Arno.

E. M. Shephard, treasurer of Le Roy township, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, January 23, 1858, son of Levi M. and Elizabeth (Mead) Shephard, natives of New York state. He received his early education in the district school of Fillmore county and worked on the farm. At the age of twenty-one he rented a farm for a year, near Mankato, Minn., and then went to Howard, Miner county, South Dakota, where he took a homestead of 160 acres, proved up his claim, erected a home and other necessary buildings, and there remained until 1891, when he returned to Mower county and purchased a farm of 160 acres, together with ten acres of timber land, the farm lying in sections 8 and 17. He repaired the buildings, and has developed the land, making a great success of general farming. He also makes a specialty of dairying and breeds Hereford cattle. Mr. Shephard is a Republican in politics, has been treasurer of Le Roy township several years, was supervisor fourteen years, and was continuously a member of the school board of his district from the early nineties until 1908. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Le Roy. Mr. Shephard married Julia C. Wirth, born at Cleveland, Ohio, Feb-

ruary 23, 1859, daughter of Andrew and Wilhelmina (Lechele) Wirth, natives of Germany. This union has been blessed with five children: Wilhelmina A., born August 31, 1882, now wife of C. B. Hall, of Mitchell county, Iowa; Elroy E., born November 1, 1884, cashier of the First State Bank at Spring Valley, Minn.; Harvey R., born July 18, 1888, now in the men's furnishing business in Montana; Howard J., born October 29, 1890, and Elizabeth J., born November 30, 1897, the latter two being at home. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

Levi M. Shephard came west in 1856, and after farming for a period in Fillmore county, engaged in the livery business. Later he moved to Mankato, and after spending a short time in Mankato, moved to South Dakota, where he engaged in farming. He died there in July, 1898, and his wife in March of the same year. In the family were seven children: Esther is now Mrs. L. F. Means, of Carthage, S. D.; Albert A. lives in Wenatchee, Wash.; E. M. lives in Le Roy township; Alma, wife of F. W. Tuttle, died in October, 1905; Emma, wife of D. D. Smith, lives in San Diego, Cal.; Carrie, wife of A. Burlison, lives in Mankato; J. E. lives in Davenport, Wash.

Conrad Hambrecht was born in Sanhoffan, Wurtemberg, Germany, February 19, 1831. He attended school until he was fourteen years old, and was then apprenticed to a wagonmaker to learn the trade. He served at this trade until he was twenty-one years of age. He worked with his parents one year and then came to America. He landed in New York in 1853, went directly to Philadelphia, worked near that city two years, and then moved to Chicago, where he remained for some time. In 1856 he came to Iowa, and pre-empted some land near the present site of Staceyville, in Mitchell county. After proving up his claim, he worked for a time in Chicago, Bloomington and Decatur, Ill., and in Missouri. In 1857 he again took up his residence on his farm and remained until 1860, when he started for Pike's Peak, but instead of going to that place he secured work in Missouri, and worked there a year, afterward returning to his farm. In 1865 he came to Mower county, and purchased land in section 17, to which he added from time to time until he now owns 740 acres. On this tract he carried on farming operations until 1905, when he retired from active life. He now spends his summers on his farm, and his winters in California. Conrad Hambrecht married the widow Wirth, whose maiden name was Wilhelmina Lachele. This union has been blessed with two children: Frank E. and Louise, the latter of whom, now Mrs. Thompson, lives in Escondido, Cal. By a previous marriage, Mrs. Hambrecht had two daughters: Minnie, who lives at home, and Julia, the wife of E. M. Shephard, of Le Roy. When Mr. Hambrecht first came to Mower county he



CONRAD HAMBRECHT

moved into a log cabin and experienced all the rigors of pioneer life and endeavor. His wife died June 7, 1902. Mr. Hambrecht is president of the Le Roy State Bank.

Frank E. Hambrecht, county commissioner, farmer and banker, was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, September 16, 1864, son of Conrad and Welhelmina (Lachele) Hambrecht. He received his education in the schools of Le Roy township, to which vicinity he was brought by his parents in 1865, at the age of one year. Here he grew to manhood and at an early age began to take his part in the work of the farm. It is worthy of note that the Hambrechts, father and son, were the first to introduce thoroughbred Hereford cattle in this state, having at the present time a fine herd of 200. In 1905, Frank E. rented the farm from his father, and has set a pace and maintained a standard in agriculture that is a credit to the township. The farm is one of the most beautiful in this part of the country and one of the picturesque spots of the county, having private, well-kept roads winding through heavy groves and amid well-cultivated fields, thus forming a haunt for automobilists and pleasure-seekers. Mr. Hambrecht is one of the most progressive men in the county, and his services for fifteen years as county commissioner have been highly valued by his fellow citizens. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the I. O. O. F., and his interest in the business development of the vicinity is shown by the fact that he is vice-president of the First National Bank of Le Roy, of which his father is president.

Ole K. Hegge, a prosperous and well thought of farmer of Lodi township, was born in Valders, Norway, in 1857, son of Knute Hegge, who came to America in 1872, bringing his family, and landing at Quebec. He then went directly to Decorah, Iowa, and two years later came to Mower county. When the family first came here, Ole K. Hegge purchased forty acres in section 6, Lodi township, with his father. He now owns a fine farm of 280 acres in section 6, in the same township. When he first came here he raised wheat almost exclusively, but now follows mixed farming, and makes a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes, selling cream to the Co-operative Creamery, of Adams, in which he is a stockholder. He also keeps Chester White hogs. His farm, which today presents such a pleasing appearance, was originally wild land, which he has broken, and on which he has erected some excellent buildings. Mr. Hegge is a Republican in politics, has been supervisor four years, assessor fifteen years, treasurer of school district 100 thirty-three years. He was at one time president of the Adams Co-operative Company, has been a trustee some years, and has also served as its treasurer. Ole K. Hegge was married in 1886 to Bertha Hovey, of Ridgeway, Iowa, daughter of Ole Hovey. This union has been blessed with

ten children: Clement is married to Rachael Hippe, and farms in Clayton township. Alfred, Mabel, Oscar and Gertrude work at home. Bernie, Ruby and Stella attend the local schools. The first Palmer died in infancy, and his namesake is now the baby and pet of the family. The family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran Synod church. The congregation was organized in 1876. The present pastor is L. Larson, from Cresco, Iowa.

Simon S. Knutson, a popular farmer of Lodi township, was born in Minnesota in 1857, son of Simon Knutson the elder, who was born in Norway, located in Wisconsin in 1851, and several years later came to Mower county, where he pre-empted 160 acres. Simon S., the subject of this sketch, was educated in the county schools, and at the age of twenty-two started in life for himself, working as a farm hand several years in Minnesota and the Dakotas. At the age of thirty-two he purchased eighty acres in section 6, Lodi township, and in addition to this has since rented some two or three hundred acres. On this place he conducts general farming and raises Hereford cattle for beef and dairy purposes, selling cream to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, in which he is one of the stockholders. He has erected a comfortable home, barns and other buildings, and is well equipped for farm work. When twenty-two years of age, Simon S. Knutson married Nellie Anderson, and they have two daughters and two sons.

Peter J. Engelsen has been a prominent man in Le Roy township since he first came here in 1864, and his services in various town offices have been duly appreciated. He has been supervisor a number of terms, chairman three years, town treasurer two years, assessor two years and a member of the school board many years. The subject of this sketch was born in Norway, October 10, 1839, there received his education, and at the age of twenty years came to America, living in Illinois four years. In 1864 he came to Mower county, located in Le Roy, and a year later purchased eighty acres of land, which he has since increased to 240 acres, all in section 15. This land he broke and tilled, and erected such buildings as he could best afford. His work has prospered, and he now has a well tilled farm, commodious and well kept barns, modern machinery and tools, and a comfortable house, all of which reflect much credit on his skill, ability, taste, thrift and industry. Mr. Engelsen was married November 11, 1876, to Sarah A. Nelson, born in Newburg, Fillmore county, November 11, 1854. This union has been blessed with eight children; Bertha Anette, now Mrs. Johannes Orke, of Le Roy; Ella, deceased; Arthur, deceased; Sarah, a teacher in California; Lilly, a teacher in St. Paul; Emma Cordelia graduated from Carleton College, Northfield, in 1911; Florence, deceased; Noah R., a student in the

Le Roy high school. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Lars Ellingson, a substantial and well-to-do farmer of Adams township, now living in the village of Adams, is a fine example of a self-made man. Coming to this country as a poor boy, he has worked his way up with but little encouragement, and has fought his way through obstacles to well deserved success. He was born in Lickanger, Sogn, Norway, August 1, 1849, son of Ellingson Larson and Brynlda Larson. He received his education in the public schools of Norway, and came to America with his parents at seventeen years of age, arriving in Adams the following year. Here he filed on eighty acres of railroad land in section 19, Adams township, where he built a shanty, which he replaced five years later with a frame house. Here he followed general farming, owning at one time 640 acres, all but 120 acres of which he cultivated, breaking 240 acres himself. He erected a fine set of buildings, and developed his place into one of the best in the county, continuing agricultural operations until 1910, when he retired and moved to Adams village, having now sold all of his farm land except 160 acres which he rents. In addition to this he owns a comfortable residence and two building lots in the village of Adams. Mr. Ellingson is single, and attends the Lutheran church. He is an independent voter, has served the town of Adams as treasurer for a period of five years, and also in minor positions. Ellingson and Brynlda Larson, parents of Lars Ellingson, were natives of Husebo, Norway. They came to America in 1866, and located for two years at Calmar, Iowa, thence coming to Adams village, where the father worked on the railroad for one year. Then they moved on their son's farm in Adams township, where they remained for the remainder of their days, the father dying June 3, 1882, and the mother December 22, 1908.

Charles Henry Coats, one of the pioneer residents of Mower county, who has contributed much to its upbuilding, was born in McKane county, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1829. He received his education in the public schools of his native county and in an academy at Cowdasport, Pa., after which he assisted his father in the lumber business for a time, the business being closed out shortly afterward. Later he removed to Wisconsin and conducted a hotel and general mercantile business until 1857, when he came to Mower county and located in Brownsdale, where he kept the hotel, succeeding E. J. Stimson, and conducted a general dry goods store, having H. E. Anderson as a partner a part of the time. In 1868 he came to Austin, with a view to opening a railroad eating house, but these plans did not mature, and he devoted his time largely to purchasing furs, a vocation he had also followed in Wisconsin and in Brownsdale. For a short time

Mr. Coats engaged as a traveling salesman for Farnham & Lovejoy, lumber dealers, of Minneapolis, this beginning a connection which lasted in all twelve years. Soon after he engaged with them he became a partner, and the firm established a shingle mill at Minneapolis, under the firm name of Farnham, Lovejoy & Co., Mr. Coats being the silent member of the firm. After his retirement from this firm he came back to Austin, where he had maintained his home. Here he looked after his real estate interests for a time. He was also manager for some years of the Wasioja Stone Company. This quarry supplied the stone for the Chicago Great Western bridge at St. Paul, for the George A. Hormel plant at Austin, and for many other important structures. Of late years Mr. Coats has practically retired from active life. He was married January 8, 1856, in Wisconsin, to Mary Wheeler, a native of Westfield, Chautauqua county, New York. They were married as the result of a visit to the then Mary Wheeler to a sister in Wisconsin, where Mr. Coats met her. Levi and Safrona (Chapin) Coats, parents of Charles Henry Coats, were natives of New York, locating in Pennsylvania in the early days, where Levi followed lumbering, rafting, etc., on the Alleghany river. Later they removed to Wisconsin, where Levi died in 1871. His wife afterward came to Austin and died at the age of eighty-nine years.

Dr. Rensselaer Soule, a pioneer physician of Lansing, came to Minnesota with the intention of retiring from the practice of medicine, but found the demand for his services so great that he was obliged to yield to the solicitations of his neighbors and take up practice in this county. He was born in Fairfield, Vt., was educated in the University of Vermont, and practiced in that state and Canada. He came to Minnesota with his family in 1865, and purchased a large tract of land in Lansing township. His wife, Susan (Richardson), died in the spring of 1880, at the age of sixty-seven years. He died the following fall at the age of seventy-seven years.

Rensselaer Soule, Jr., son of Dr. R. Soule, was born in Fairfield, Vt., March 27, 1836, came to Minnesota with his family in 1864, and settled in Lansing village, some years later moving onto a farm, southwest quarter of section 10. His wife's maiden name was Cornelia L. Hawley, sister of L. Hawley. (See Lyman Hawley family.) There were four children: Herbert, Helen, Lillian and Bessie (wife of A. E. Beadell, Lansing, Minn.); Helen, who married F. A. Foote, died in St. Paul in 1905. Lillian died in Faribault in 1884. Rensselaer Soule, Jr., father of Herbert R., died in Lansing, March 5, 1904.

Herbert R. Soule was married to Alice Padgett, September 3, 1884. He has been engaged in various lines of business, among them farming, shipping live stock, and some real estate business.



RENSSELAER SOULE, JR.



MRS. RENSSELAER SOULE, JR.

He was town clerk of Lansing for eight years. At the present time he is committee clerk in one of the departments of the legislature, session of 1911. He belongs to the Masons, Woodmen, Court of Honor. Alice (Padgett) Soule was born near Beaver Dam, Wis., December 10, 1857. Her parents came to America from Lincolnshire, England, in the early fifties. Three of her brothers, William, John and Robert, enlisted in Wisconsin regiments, serving in the Civil war. Alice came with an older sister (Mrs. Mann) to Moscow, Freeborn county, in 1870. She was a successful teacher in the public schools for a number of years. This union is blessed with one son, Herbert P. Soule, born August 13, 1893, and is a student in Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna.

The Soule family trace their ancestry back to the Mayflower. Through the female line it is proud to claim Miles Standish as an ancestor, and through the male line, George Soule, who was one of the peerless company who took possession of "New England's rock-bound coast."

Lyman Hawley came to Minnesota from Vermont in 1864. He was engaged in a general store for about five years; was one of the town supervisors, and taught school in the village of Lansing several terms. He owned several different farms in the vicinity of Lansing. His ancestors came to America from England and settled in Connecticut in 1666, and from there they moved to Vermont. One of his ancestors was a close friend of Ethan Allen. He moved to Faribault, Minn., February, 1878.

Orlando Clinton LaBar was born at Rockport, Carbon county, Pennsylvania, in 1846, his parents being Daniel J. and Susan (Dodson) LaBar, the former a native of Pike county, the latter of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. In 1856 the family moved to Wisconsin and settled at Berlin, Green Lake county, and from there went to Fond du Lac county. In 1865 they came to Mower county and settled in Lansing village. Orlando LaBar, who was the eighth of nine children, was raised on the farm, and received a good common school education, remaining at home with his parents until 1872, when he purchased a farm in section 28, Udolpho township, to which he removed in the spring of 1873, where both parents died. In 1891 he rented his farm and built himself a home in the village of Lansing, where he now resides. He has become an extensive land owner and prosperous farmer, but has also at various times spent considerable energy in the grain business and in other enterprises. Although he has steadily refused to take an active part in politics, he has served five years as a member of the board of county commissioners and for two years was chairman of that body. The subject of this sketch was married, in October, 1869, to Mary Stokes, born near Oshkosh, Wis., the sixth daughter of the Rev. George and Delana (Forbes)

Stokes. To Mr. and Mrs. LaBar three children were born; one died in infancy; Jessie died at the age of nineteen years and George S. married Nettie Chaffee, by whom he has one son, Clinton J. LaBar.

Rev. George Stokes was born in Lincolnshire, England, and married Delana Forbes. They came to Mower county in the fall of 1865 and settled in Udolpho, where the wife died. Rev. Stokes remained until 1877, when he went to Utah, returning in 1884. He died in 1885 at the home of his son-in-law, O. C. LaBar, in Udolpho township, Minnesota. He was a true pioneer pastor, and held the first religious services and organized the first churches in a number of Mower county townships. He was the father of nine children.

Fred W. Smock, organizer and cashier of the Sargeant State Bank, was born in Benton county, Iowa, near the village of Vinton, March 6, 1874, son of C. and Viola (Webster) Smock, who located in Iowa in 1865 and now live on a fine farm of 320 acres at Riceville, Iowa. Fred W. received his education in the public schools of Iowa, and engaged in farming at home until twenty-five years of age. Then he secured a position with the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, of Riceville, Iowa, as bookkeeper. This position he faithfully filled until July, 1906, when he came to Sargeant and purchased the private bank of Schoonmaker & Blethen, which he at once organized into a state bank, becoming its first cashier. The bank has prospered, and is well equipped for business, one of the latest improvements being a burglar-proof vault safe. Aside from the banking business, Mr. Smock carries on an extensive business in insurance, real estate and loans. In 1908 the present brick bank building was erected. Mr. Smock has been treasurer of the village four years and is still serving in that capacity. He is much interested in his village and the surrounding country, and is doing all that he can to promote the prosperity of the community. The subject of this sketch is a high degree Mason, a member of the M. W. A., an attendant of the Congregational church and a Republican in politics. He was married August 29, 1900, to Addie N. Norton, of Charles City, Iowa, and they have one son, Morton C., born September 22, 1903.

Charles R. Boostrom, of whose lifelong dream the Southern Minnesota Normal College, of Austin, is a materialization, was born in Oneida, Ill., March 1, 1864, the son of George and Aurelia (Madison) Boostrom, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Washington county, New York. The elder Boostrom was fortunate in discovering coal on his farm, and this furnished the family with a substantial amount of this world's goods. Charles R., who was one of nine children, was brought up in a Christian home, and attended the public schools. Early in life



CHARLES R. BOOSTROM.

he conceived the plan of some day establishing a school where the young people of limited finances and opportunities might receive educational equipment for their work in life. In 1883 he entered the Western Illinois Normal College, at Bushnell, Ill., and graduated from the normal course there in 1884. Then in order to see something of the world, he spent five years in the west, mining, lumbering, ranching and teaching. In 1889 he returned to Illinois, and took a scientific course in the Northern Illinois Normal School, at Dixon, graduating in 1891. The following fall saw him daily installed as principal of schools at Rio, Ill., where he remained from 1891 to 1893. Then he was elected superintendent of schools at Wataga, Ill., and occupied that position until 1896, when he entered the Valparaiso University, in Indiana, and took a post graduate course. Then, in 1897, with E. M. Schelde and O. G. Jackman, he founded the Southern Minnesota Normal College, furnishing the credit for the institution and acting as its first vice president and treasurer, the school being the outcome of plans which he had long held. In 1900, when Dr. Schelde, the first president, retired, the subject of this sketch succeeded to the position which he now occupies, being the only one of the founders at present connected with the school. President Boostrom's sphere of usefulness as an educator and as a citizen has extended far beyond the bounds of his own school. In 1904 Professor Boostrom was appointed by John Olson, state superintendent of public instruction, as lecturer before state summer schools, which position he filled three years. In 1907 he succeeded O. W. Shaw as a member of the board of managers of the state public school at Owatonna, and immediately upon his appointment was made president of the board, a position he still occupies, having been reappointed January 1, 1909. He is president of the John Eriesson Republican League of Minnesota, an organization which includes all the Scandinavian Republican clubs of Minnesota, being elected in 1908, and re-elected in 1910. He was also one of the organizers of the Austin Progressive League. In February, 1911, Prof. Boostrom was appointed by Gov. A. D. Eberhart to the office of assistant public examiner. President Boostrom was married June 21, 1893, at Victoria, Ill., to Alpha E. Harpman, daughter of John and Margaret (Rosenleaf) Harpman, natives of Sweden. Mrs. Boostrom graduated from the Hedding College, at Abingdon, Ill., in 1890, then entered the Valparaiso University, and graduated from the musical department in 1897. She then became teacher of music and arts in the Southern Minnesota Normal College, remaining for seven years. When her health gave out the school lost an excellent teacher, but her kindly influence still extends through all the departments and is an inspiration to the students. She belongs to a number of

local clubs and organizations, and was one of the founders of the Era Club, of which she was president for several years.

Winfield H. Goodsell was born on the farm where he is now located in Frankford township, March 13, 1861, son of Naaman and Jane A. (Goodrich) Goodsell. Here he was reared, received a liberal district school education, and continued farming with his father until the latter's death in 1888, at which time he took entire charge. To the home place he has added other land until he now has 536 acres, all adjoining. Mr. Goodsell is a prominent Mason, belongs to the Blue Lodge at Grand Meadow, the Chapter at Le Roy, the Commandery at Austin, and the Mystic Shrine at St. Paul, and is as well a member of the M. W. A. at Grand Meadow. Winfield H. Goodsell was married in the old village of Frankford, December 25, 1889, to Lizzie Parker, daughter of William H. and Hannah (Wiseman) Parker, at one time prominent farmers of Frankford, where William H. Parker died in 1886. The Goodsell home has been blessed with eight children.

Naaman Goodsell, a pioneer of Frankford township, now deceased, was born in East Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York, in 1822, of old Vermont ancestry. He received a common school education and remained at home until attaining young manhood. After living in Indiana and Iowa, he came to Frankford in 1855, and took a homestead of 160 acres of land in section 23, erected a home and passed through all the hardships incident and necessary to pioneer days. He attained prominence and was treasurer of the township ten years. He was married June 17, 1847, to Jane A. Goodrich, of Geauga county, Ohio, and they were blessed with six children: George, of Grand Meadow village; James F., of Flandreau, S. D., where he has been state senator four years, county superintendent and county auditor; Lydia E., now Mrs. Cornelius W. Keck, of Fillmore county; Eva C., now Mrs. Henry Bush, of Grand Meadow; Winfield H., of Frankford township, and Addie J., now Mrs. James Glynn, of Fillmore county. Naaman Goodsell died October 12, 1888, and his wife now makes her home with her son, Winfield.

Robert Dick, a scientific farmer of Le Roy township, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, May 19, 1869, son of John and Ferena (Isly) Dick, natives of Switzerland. He received his early education in the schools of his native county, and then engaged in farming with his father until 1892, at which time he took up his residence in Chester, Howard county, Iowa, and purchased a half interest in a half section of land. There he engaged in farming until 1895, when he sold out his interest and came to Le Roy township, where he farmed on rented land. In 1902 he returned to Howard county, purchased 250 acres in Chester township, and there followed farming until the spring of 1910, when he sold out



THOMAS KOUGH AND FAMILY.

and purchased 240 acres in section 27, Le Roy township, the place then being known as the Hayes place. Mr. Dick carries on general farming and stock raising in the most modern style. He is now breeding into Holstein-Fresians, having hitherto been a breeder of the Black Polled Angus. While in Iowa, Mr. Dick served as president of the school board of his district. He votes the Democratic ticket, attends the Presbyterian church and belongs to the M. W. A. of LeRoy. Mr. Dick was married October 19, 1893, to Lena Karlen, born in Switzerland, January 23, 1876, daughter of Christian and Katherine Karlen, who brought her to America in 1892. In the Dick family are five children: Olga O., April 16, 1894; Herman R., February 20, 1899; Martha M., September 10, 1904; Lorena, November 2, 1901 (died April 29, 1905), and Marie L., December 13, 1908. John Dick was born December 9, 1835, and his wife, Ferena Isly, April 3, 1840, both natives of Switzerland. They came to America in 1854, and located in Ohio, where they farmed four years. Then they went to Green county, Wisconsin, and purchased a 200-acre farm, where they farmed until 1901, when they retired and moved to Monticello. There they died, John, August 9, 1910, and Ferena, December 9, 1902. In their family were nine children: Ella is the widow of Gottfried Wittwer, and lives in Madison, Wis.; John lives in Monticello, Wis.; Mary is the widow of Albert Wittwer, and lives in Madison, Wis.; Robert lives in LeRoy; Rosa is the wife of Samuel Wittwer, and they live in Monticello, Wis.; Louise is the wife of Henry Stedtler, and they now reside also in Monticello, Wis.; Jacob lives in Redfield, S. D.; Annie is the wife of John P. Klossner, and they live at Rice Lake, Wis.; Minnie is the wife of Detrich Marty, and they live at Monticello, Wis. Christian Karlen was born January 25, 1845, and his wife, Katherine Deiter, April 15, 1840. They came from Switzerland to America in 1889, and located in Green county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming three years. Then they came to Mower county, Minnesota, and farmed five years. Subsequently they went to Howard county, Iowa, and purchased a quarter section farm, where they farmed until 1911, when they retired and moved to LeRoy township. In their family are eight children: John C. lives in Lodi township, this county; Albert lives in Columbia, S. D.; Emma M. is the wife of Samuel Meier, and lives in Verona, Wis.; Eliza, wife of Eleroy Hilton, died in September, 1893; Lena is the wife of Robert Dick, and they now live in LeRoy; Edward lives in Taopi; Emil lives at Houghton, S. D.; Ida lives in Columbia, S. D.

Thomas Kough, extensive stock breeder of Lodi township, was born in Shrewsbury, England, November 1, 1841, son of Thomas and Catherine (Harley) Kough, both of whom died in England.

He came to America in 1861, and after a long and troublesome voyage landed in Quebec. Then he visited a brother in Owen Sound, Georgian Bay, Canada West of that time, but now Ontario, for a while, and subsequently located in Guelph, Canada, where he engaged as a farmer eight years. In 1867 he went to New York state and a year later came to Mower county and located in Lodi township, purchasing 120 acres in section 14. This he has now increased to 440 acres, all in a high degree of cultivation. In the early years of his residence here he raised grain, but later he began breeding Shorthorn cattle and Cotswold sheep. After studying the matter carefully he decided to introduce Hereford cattle into this part of the country, and accordingly, in 1881, went to Guelph, Canada West, now Ontario, where he and Conrad Hambrecht, of LeRoy, purchased four head of pure blooded Herefords for \$1,630 and brought them to Lodi. He now ships his beef directly to Chicago, and sells pure blooded live stock as far away as western Montana. His herd consists of 125 head, several of which are prize winners, his bull and steers having taken \$140 in premiums at the 1902 state fair. Mr. Kough has a comfortable residence, with all modern improvements, such as running hot and cold water, bath rooms, modern plumbing, acetylene, a heating plant and the like, his present residence being erected on the site of one which burned in 1902. Mr. Kough has taken a prominent part in the affairs of the community from the time of his first arrival. Soon after he came here he attended a school meeting of district 67, and was elected school clerk at once. At that time the district had just been organized and the schoolhouse had been started but was not finished on the inside. This old schoolhouse was destroyed by prairie fire in 1871, when it was not yet paid for. Unfortunately, the records of this district were destroyed when the residence of Mr. Kough was burned, in 1902. In the spring of 1874, when the town of Lodi was organized, Mr. Kough was the first town clerk, and since then he has held some important local office nearly continuously. He has refused to run for county office, though often assured heavy support. He was first married in Canada, November 16, 1865, to Alice Maud Benham, who died in 1867, leaving one child, Catherine M., who now lives in England. September 4, 1873, Mr. Kough married Maggie Ann Wilsey, a native of Pennsylvania. This union has been blessed with four children: Nancy Maud, John Harley, Thomas William, the latter two being twins, and Sarah Calphernia, now Mrs. J. R. Culton. Nancy M. is widow of F. S. White, formerly for many years station agent at Taopi. John Harley married Lorene Fisher. Thomas William married Leona Fisher, and after her death, Bridget Murray.

Axel Roe, an industrious farmer of Lodi township, was born in Norway in 1865, son of Ole and Katherine Larson Roen, both now deceased. Axel came to America in 1889, landed in New York and then came west to Praltar, Iowa, where he engaged in railroading for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul for three years. Then he moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he worked for the B. C. R. N. railroad four years. Then he came to Adams and purchased 160 acres in Clayton township. After farming there for four years he sold out and then purchased 160 acres in Mitchell county, Iowa. After two years he sold out and purchased 160 acres in section 26, Lodi township, where he carries on general farming, raises Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes and has a drove of thirty-three Chester White swine, as well as twelve Percheron horses. In addition to his property in Lodi, he owns sixty-five acres in Mitchell county, Iowa. Mr. Roe is a Republican in politics and has been school director of district 80 for some years. He was married in 1892 at Cedar Rapids to Annie Jondal, of Norway, and they have six bright children: Otis, Conrad August, Arthur Segard, Theodore Clarence, Archibald Gerhard and Alma Senora. The five sturdy boys attend school. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Engbret Rudlong, a substantial farmer of Lodi township, was born in Norway in 1857, son of Alex Rudlong, who died in Norway in 1908. Engbret came to America at twenty-seven years of age, landed in New York and came directly to Adams, where he worked out as a farm hand seven years. Then he purchased eighty acres in section 5, Lodi township, and made general improvements, erecting a home and barn and raising a windmill to pump water. He has since followed intensive farming, and raises also Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes, selling cream to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, in which he is one of the stockholders and which he assisted in organizing. Mr. Rudlong is a Republican in politics and attends the Lutheran church. He was married in 1891 to Annie Weste, who was born in Norway and came to the United States in 1889. This union has been blessed with seven children: Mabel, Artie, Harry, Eddie, Eda, Nordine and Violet, all at home. Harry, Eddie and Eda attend school.

Rev. Frederick C. Milius, pastor of St. Michael's German Evangelical church, at Waltham, ably fulfills the ideal of the village pastor. Active, well-read and deeply devout, he combines justice with charity, and kindly consideration for the sinner with his sternness toward wrong. He has built up a great organization, and the church will stand as his monument for centuries to come. Born in North Collins, Erie county, New York, son of

Michael and Caroline (Smith) Milius, he received a good education in his native town and graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary, at Buffalo, N. Y., coming to Waltham in 1884. The Rev. Milius married Anna Dette, daughter of Louis and Caroline Dette, and they are the parents of four children: Anna, Emma, Hugo and Herbert. Anna is the wife of Herman Matter and they have one child, Beata, two years old. Emma is the wife of Julius Kapke and they have two children, Leonard and Alvin. Michael Milius, father of the Rev. Frederick C. Milius, came from Germany with his parents about 1840, and settled near Buffalo, N. Y. He learned the trade of carriage painter and finally, in 1860, established a business of his own, which he engaged in at North Collins, that state, until his death, June 3, 1910.

John H. Anderson, a hardworking farmer of Clayton township, was born in Adams township, July 7, 1872, son of Hans and Isabell Anderson. He was educated in the country schools, and when twenty years of age started in life on his own responsibility. He worked out by the month, then on the railroad and then at the carpenter trade one year. For four years he rented land, and then purchased eighty acres. He now has 160 acres in section 17, Clayton township, and on this he now conducts mixed farming. He has forty-five head of cattle, which he raises for dairy and beef purposes, a drove of hogs and several head of grade Percheron horses. His house is well located, and an evergreen drive adds greatly to the appearance of the place. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics, has been road overseer two years and treasurer of school district 74 for two terms. The subject of this sketch was married January 1, 1896, to Christina Huseby, daughter of Arne A. Huseby, of Marchall township, and this union has resulted in seven children: Selma, Ella, Ida, Herbert, Arnold, Adeline and Joel. All except Adeline and Joel are attending school and doing well in their studies. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. Hans and Isabella Anderson came to America from Norway and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin. Two years later they came to Adams township and purchased land on which they farmed until the death of Hans A., in 1910. Mrs. Isabella Anderson is now living in Marshall township.

E. E. Edwards, a modern farmer of Waltham township, where he owns 200 well tilled acres in sections 26 and 27, was born in the township where he still resides, September 5, 1873, son of Milton and Dorothy (Johnson) Edwards, the former of whom came from Illinois about 1871, and located in Waltham township. The subject of this sketch received his early education in Waltham and Wilder, Minn., and Osage, Iowa, and has devoted his life to farming. He married Jennie A. Hunt, November 11, 1896, daughter of E. F. Hunt and Mary Kezar, his wife, and they are

the parents of four children: Eugene Everett, born February 12, 1900; Lester Lee, born October 16, 1901, and died November 5, 1901; Drusilla Wave, born December 21, 1904, and died March 19, 1905; and Mark Wesley, born October 11, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and Mr. Edwards is a member of the M. W. A. at Sargeant.

Truls S. Green, an honored resident of Pleasant Valley, was born in Norway, July 1, 1842, son of Sven and Anna Green, now deceased. He came to America in 1870 and after landing at Quebec came directly to Dane county, Wisconsin, where he worked out a year. Then he was employed as a farm hand in Olmsted county four years. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres of land in section 26, Pleasant Valley. He now owns a quarter section of good land, and has conducted diversified farming, having about twenty-five head of Durham cattle and ten head of Chester White hogs. Mr. Green is a Republican in politics, and an attendant of the Lutheran church. He was married in November, 1877, to Anna Nelson, of Rockdell township. Anna Nelson, daughter of Nels and Christine Nelson, was born in Wisconsin, May 16, 1852, and after two years was taken by her parents to Rockdell township. At the age of eighteen she started to work out part of the time, until the age of twenty-three, when she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Green have had eight children, of whom four are dead. Anna was born February 1, 1876, and was married to Christ Nelson, January 11, 1896. She lives in Grand Meadow township. Christine was born November 12, 1878, and died March 3, 1896. Sam was born in June, 1881, and died in March, 1882. Alfred was born July 4, 1884. He is employed in a department store in Minneapolis, and owns a quarter section of land in North Dakota. Carl was born January 26, 1887, and died September 10, 1901. Walter, the first, was born January 21, 1892, and died October 10, 1892. Walter, the second, was born December 11, 1893, and is at home. Theodore was born January 15, 1889. He has rented his father's farm for the past two years, and has managed it successfully, owning stock and six horses of his own. He is an estimable young man, well liked in the community.

Olaus Thorson, assessor and prominent farmer of Bennington township, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, December 23, 1861, son of Thor Knutson and Betsy Knutson, his wife. These worthy people, natives of Norway, came to America in 1861, lived in Rock county, Wisconsin, until 1868, then came to Fillmore county, this state, purchased 120 acres, and followed agricultural pursuits, dying, respectively, in November, 1892, and January, 1876. Olaus received his education in the district schools, lost his mother when he was fifteen, was reared on the farm and there remained until 1889, when he came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres of

land in Bennington township, where he erected buildings and improved the land. He has added to his place from time to time until he now owns 320 acres, all under a high degree of cultivation. Mr. Thorson is a Republican in politics, served nine years as school treasurer, and is now in his seventh year as clerk of the same district. In addition to his real estate, he is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery and the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator at Ostrander. The subject of this sketch was married October 4, 1884, to Oleva Barnes, of Fillmore county, and they have eight children: Clarence, Bernard, Oscar, Oneay, William, Owen, Roosevelt and Leona, all living at home except Clarence, who is managing a 240-acre farm in section 21, Bennington township. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Thorson is known as the "threshing machine man" of the community, having operated four different threshers in the town of Bennington since he first started in 1891. In the fall of 1910 he sold his threshing machine and threshing business to his son, Bernard Thorson. When Mr. Thorson started in this line in 1891 he purchased a Huber engine and a Columbian Victory separator. His second thresher was the Minneapolis, and his last two were the J. I. Case thresher.

Robert A. Anderson, progressive farmer of Marshall township, was born in Mower county in 1879, son of Andrew R. and Elizabeth Anderson, pioneers. He was educated in the county schools, and assisted on the farm until twenty-four years of age, at which time he inherited 240 acres of land in section 25, Marshall township. Since that time he has conducted general farming, making a specialty of dairying. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, votes the Republican ticket and belongs to the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Anderson was married in 1903 to Clara Alfson, and they have two bright children, Cora and Arnold.

Andrew R. Anderson, an early settler of Marshall township, was born in Norway, November 17, 1855. When he was thirteen years old he came to America with his parents and located in Decorah, Iowa, where his parents farmed, and there he grew to manhood, spending his time in school, and on the farm. At the age of nineteen he went to the Dakotas, but this was the summer of the grasshopper plague, and not finding things favorable there he came to Mower county. In 1874 he purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in section 25, built a house, made many improvements and carried on general farming, adding to his land from time to time until he owned 240 acres. Mr. Anderson was assessor and town clerk several terms, and was also a teacher in the county, his education being obtained by self study. He was married in 1879 to Elizabeth Rasmussen, a daughter of one of the

pioneer families. This union was blessed with three children: Robert A., Andrew O. and Emma Syrenius.

Chris Anderson was born in Denmark, April 9, 1863, son of Hans and Anna (Christiansen) Anderson, both of whom died in the old country. Chris Anderson received his education in his native country and came to America in 1880, locating in Austin township, where he engaged in agricultural work. In 1901 he became head foreman for the A. H. Davidson farm, of 264 acres, which position he still retains with much credit, being energetic and thoroughly capable. He is a Republican, attends the Lutheran church and belongs to the Danish Brotherhood. The subject of this sketch was married in October, 1893, to Anna Prestegaard, and they have four children: Hans, Mabel, Helen and Elmer, all at school.

Zalmon Ames, one of the early settlers of Mower county, was born in Genesee county, New York, August 9, 1820. He grew to manhood in New York, and was there married to Anna Avery, October 12, 1844. She was a native of Chautauqua county, New York, born there in 1830. She died in 1850, leaving three children: Francis, Cerenias C. (now deceased) and Alfred O. Mrs. Ames was again married in 1851 to Mary Avery. In 1854 they migrated to Illinois, settling in that state in January of that year. In 1857 they came to Mower county and located on section 7, Red Rock township. His wife died October 30, 1875, leaving five children: Henry A., Mary E., Fred D., Warren and Hattie L. Mary E. married George Wood, and they live in Spring Creek, Pa. Fred D. lives in Chicago. Warren lives in Verndale, Minn. Hattie L. is now Mrs. Carter.

Henry A. Ames was born in Red Rock township, December 7, 1858, and has spent the larger part of his adult years in Austin, being employed for some years with Alonzo Decker in the coal business. He is now with J. F. Fairbanks. Mr. Ames married Barbara Sachse, and there are six children in the family: Bertha, Ettie, Esther, Grace, Caroline and Donald D. Bertha is the wife of William Lambert and has one daughter, Ruth.

Joseph M. Beck, Austin bookbinder, was born in New York city, January 27, 1868, son of Robert and Emma (Canfield) Beck, natives respectively of Ireland and England. They located in New York city, and there Robert Beck engaged in the retail meat trade for many years, dying in 1890, several years earlier than his wife, who survived him until 1906. Joseph M. received his education in the public schools, and then learned the bookbinding trade. In 1887 he worked in Chicago a short period and then took up his abode in St. Paul for six years, still working at his trade. In 1894 he came to Austin and opened a small bindery in the office of the Register. In 1907 he moved to his present quarters in the

Revord block, where his business has grown and prospered. Mr. Beck is a Republican in politics, belongs to the C. of H. and the R. A. and attends the Catholic church. He was married October 29, 1889, at Inver Grove, Dakota county, this state, to Anna Brown, and this union has been blessed with four children: Agnes, Joseph, Jr., Anna M. and Florence M., all at home and attending school.

Robert M. Boyd, a retired farmer living in Austin, was born in Janesville, Wis., August 3, 1846, son of Robert and Ellen (Bufton) Boyd, natives of Ireland. Robert M. was reared on a farm, and remained in Rock county until 1877, when he came to Mower county and located in Austin township. Later he went to Lyle township, and farmed there until 1895, when he retired and moved to Austin. He married for his first wife Sebenia Cunningham, daughter of Richard Cunningham. She died July 20, 1900, leaving five living children: Mary; Robert A.; Ellen, wife of Joseph Redman; Ormanzo and Amelia. He was married the second time November 4, 1903, to Mary A. Hoffman, daughter of Jacob Fiezel and Mary Sarah Ott, his wife. Robert M. Boyd served in the Civil war, enlisting in March, 1863, in Co. B, 37th Wis. Vol. Inf., and serving until the close of the war.

R. A. Boyd, the popular local agent for the Standard Oil Company at Austin, was born in Wisconsin, March 4, 1874, son of Robert M. Boyd, also of Austin. R. A. Boyd was brought to Mower county when two years of age and was reared on a farm, remaining at home until 1902, when he came to Austin, and engaged in the draying business. In 1905 he commenced work for the Standard Oil Company, and thirteen months of this service so demonstrated his fitness and ability that he was given charge of the local district, consisting of Austin, Adams, Lyle, Rose Creek, Elkton, Dexter, Renova, Brownsdale, Waltham, Lansing, Corning, Oakland, Moscow and London, in which position he has since remained, dealing in all kinds of illuminating oil, machine oil, naphtha, turpentine and gasoline, and keeping three teams on the road all the while. Mr. Boyd served three years in Co. G, Second Regiment, M. N. G., and at one time was appointed a member of the school board in Lyle township to fill a vacancy. He is a member of the M. W. A. and the F. O. E. The subject of this sketch was married March 30, 1896, to Mabel Mannering, and to this union have been born two daughters, Mildred, November 16, 1900, and Hazel, June 18, 1903. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

Barney Bushman, for many years street commissioner of the city of Austin, came to Mower county in 1878 and was employed for a time as section hand on the C., M. & St. P. line. After two years of this work, he was engaged for seven years in the car

shops, and then farmed two years. His wide acquaintance and his interest in public affairs caused him to enter the political arena, and for sixteen years he served as street commissioner. He has now retired from active work, but still takes an interest in all public movements. Mr. Bushman married Tiena Helmsing, daughter of Gerhard Helmsing, and to this union have been born five children: Gerhard, Henry, August, Frank and Katie, the latter now being Mrs. Albert Thompson. Barney Bushman was born in Germany, October 27, 1841, son of Frederick and Katie (Linne-man) Bushman. He came to this country with his wife and family of four children, landing at Baltimore, and coming direct to Austin.

C. Perry Bell, now deceased, was one of the venerable pioneers of Mower county, and his influence was ever exerted in behalf of that which was righteous and just. He was born November 24, 1828, on a farm in Garrettsville, Otsego county, New York, where he was reared. His father was a native of Yorkshire, England, who came to America in 1802, married Abigail Perry, and ended his days in Albany, N. Y. The son was named from the famous commodore of the war of 1812. In 1856, N. G. Perry, a cousin of C. Perry Bell, came to Mower county with a party of settlers who located in Lausing township, about three miles north of Austin. In the spring of 1857 came the subject of this sketch. He pre-empted land in Udolpho township, but soon after purchased eighty acres in Lansing township from N. G. Perry. On this place he settled, and there he successfully conducted general farming, adding to his place from time to time until he owned 338 acres. During the fall and winter of 1858 he lived in Wisconsin, but in the spring again returned to his farm. In 1863 he enlisted in Company B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and engaged in the famous Indian expedition to Fort Sully and through the "bad lands." He was mustered out in the winter of 1865, and again returned to Mower county. In the early days Mr. Bell was the good Samaritan of his neighborhood, supplying flour to his starving neighbors. Often upon his return from a thirty-mile trip he found his floor covered with sleeping men, waiting for a share of his flour, some of them coming from as far away as Moscow. Mr. Bell was a member of McIntire Post, G. A. R., and the members of that order attended his funeral in a body. His death, June 6, 1906, was a distinct loss to the community in which for so many years he had been an honored factor. The subject of this sketch was married December 18, 1875, to Rebecca Garred, and to this union were born two children, Cora and William. Cora is now Mrs. Maurice Case. William married Ada Carll, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Bartlett) Carll. The father of Mr. Bell was Christopher Bell.

John O. Blom was born in Sweden in 1871, the son of Oscar and Johanna Blom, who came to the United States about 1890, and located in Mower county. John O. was educated in Sweden, came to Mower county with his parents, and when twenty years of age started in life for himself as a farmer. He is now leasing the E. A. Taylor property in section 28, Marshall township, and expects soon to buy a nice farm of his own. He has been on the Taylor property since 1903. Mr. Blom was married in 1893 to Helen Rolf, daughter of Fred Rolf, of Marshall township, and this union has resulted in two children: Walter and Grace. He attends the Lutheran church, votes the Republican ticket, and belongs to the United Workmen.

Harry Bradley, retired business man, has seen much of life on the continent and islands of Europe, and has also had his share in the commercial activities of Le Roy. He was born in Yorkshire, England, June 27, 1840, son of Joseph and Sarah (Eastwood) Bradley, the former a cloth merchant of Yorkshire who died in 1850, the latter following him to the grave in 1880. To this union twelve children were born: Sarah, Mary and Isabella live in England; Harry lives in Le Roy, Minn.; Anna, Emma, John, Jane, Joseph and three unnamed infants are deceased. Harry Bradley received his education in the Tollersfield Academy of Yorkshire, England, and graduated in 1858, after which he went to London and engaged as a draftsman with W. M. Crossland, an eminent architect, for five years. During the succeeding seven years he remained in the same employ, traveling extensively in France, Germany, Italy, England, Scotland and Wales, learning the highest arts of his profession. Then he returned to Yorkshire, engaged in business for himself, and later went to London, where he still followed his profession. It was in 1881 that he left England and sailed for America, locating at once in Le Roy, where he was clerk and bookkeeper in the Frisbee and Larrabee drug stores. Later he embarked in the lumber and coal business, in which he was very successful, having his son, Harry E., as a partner a part of the time. In 1910 he sold out his business and retired. Harry Bradley was married December 31, 1881, to Mary Ann Bradley, who died August 1, 1909. In the family is one son, Harry E., born March 6, 1883. Mr. Bradley is a Democrat in politics, is a member of the Episcopal church, and affiliates with the M. W. A.

Hiram H. Bither, retired farmer, living in Le Roy village, was born in Aroostook county, Maine, August 9, 1836, son of Benjamin and Anna (Tyler) Bither, twelfth of a family of five girls and ten boys. Hiram H. left Maine in 1856, and located in Black River Falls, Wis., where he stayed eight months. Then he farmed in Elk River, Minn., for eleven years, and in 1868 sold out and located in Oakdale, Howard county, Iowa. In 1892 he sold this

place and came to Le Roy, where he purchased a small farm of twenty acres, which he sold in 1904. Mr. Bither is a member of Eureka Lodge, No. 74, A. F. & A. M. By his first wife, Saphronia, daughter of John Feleh, he has five children: Harry E., died at the age of two years and ten months; Edwin H. is the second; Susan E. is the wife of Chester Cadwallader; William lives in Chicago; Saphronia died in infancy. Mrs. Saphronia Feleh Bither died in July, 1870. Later Mr. Bither married Harriet R., daughter of John Burbank. She died April 10, 1895. In 1896 Mr. Bither married Anna Forthum, a native of Le Roy, of Norwegian descent. There is an adopted child, Helen M., in the family.

Thomas Cahill, the genial proprietor of the Taopi Hotel, is a native of Connecticut, born in New London, November 12, 1844, son of Dennis and Ann Riley Cahill, who brought him to Dodge county, Wisconsin, in 1845, at one year of age, taking him at eleven years of age to Sauk county, in the same state. Here he received his education and grew to manhood. In 1866 he engaged in farming for himself, in Sauk county, an occupation he followed there three years. He then worked at the timber business in the same county for a similar period. In 1873 he came to Mower county and located in Le Roy township, engaging in farming for one summer, after which he took up the stock and grain buying business, an occupation which he followed until 1891, purchasing grain at Le Roy, Chester, Riceville and Taopi, still maintaining his home at Le Roy. In 1901 he removed to Taopi, and continued grain buying two more years. In July, 1893, he rented the Taopi Hotel, which he conducted as landlord until 1902, when he purchased the property, and has since been both landlord and owner. Since coming to Taopi, Mr. Cahill has served as president of the village council, and is now village recorder. Aside from the hotel and buildings in Taopi, he owns a residence and seventeen lots in Le Roy. Mr. Cahill is a Democrat and a Catholic. He was married February 23, 1867, to Bridget E. Walsh, and to this union have been born five children, of whom two are living: Mary Ellen, now Mrs. H. J. Gosha, operator at Farmington, Minn., and Katherine, who lives at home. Those deceased are John S., James and Thomas.

Henry P. Cronan, a successful farmer of Mower county, has 160 acres of good land in section 25, Windom township, and carries on general farming in an energetic manner, which is highly productive of excellent results. He was born March 6, 1867, at Ossian, Iowa, son of Patrick and Mary (Grace) Cronan, who were born in Ireland and married in America, to which country they immigrated, Patrick dying in 1877 and his wife in 1904. Henry P. was brought to Mower county as a boy, and here received his early education, assisting his parents with farm work. He has

since devoted his entire life to agriculture. Mr. Cronan is a member of the Workmen and the Degree of Honor and is a communicant of the Catholic church. He was married May 17, 1892, to Laura E. Woodward, daughter of James and Helen (Kreglok) Woodward, of New York. This union has resulted in four children: Ruth B., born February 16, 1893, a teacher in Windom township; Reginald T., born August 4, 1894; Helen M., born November 9, 1898, and Rodger B., born March 21, 1903.

C. B. Dibble, of Austin, sanitary dairyman and owner of the North Star Dairy Company, was born in Michigan in May, 1856, the son of D. K. Dibble. He came to Minnesota with his parents at one year of age, and lived with them in Dodge county, where the father pursued his occupation as a farmer, being also employed in the county treasurer's office. The subject of this sketch remained in Dodge county until 1891, when he came to Austin. Since then, with the exception of about two years, he has been in the dairy business. The North Star Dairy Company, of which he is the owner, does a general dairy business, retailing milk, cream, butter and ice cream. Mr. Dibble commenced in this line by selling milk from his farm, two miles out of Austin, and gradually drifted into his present large business, increasing the number of his customers by hard work and honest dealing. Mr. Dibble is well liked socially, being a member of the Modern Woodmen and the Eagles. He pays his religious duties at the Methodist church. In early life he married Idell Getman, daughter of Conrad and Mary Getman, and this union has been blessed with four sons, Daniel K., Roy G., Bert E. and Ralph, all of whom are employed with their father in the North Star Dairy Company. Daniel K. married Lettie Dungaw, and they have three children: Irene, Esther and Charles. Roy G. married Ada Storey. Bert E. married Alta Minto.

Emil Dahmen, representative of the Minneapolis Tribune, living in Austin, was born in Kalmer, Sweden, June 17, 1872, son of C. J. and Hanna (Peterson) Dahmen, the former of whom was a leather merchant in Sweden. Emil received his education in the public and private schools of Sweden, and then entered into the grocery business in his native land. In 1893 he came to America, and farmed near Jamestown, N. Y., for one year, after which he engaged in the life insurance business six years, serving in the meantime a term as private in the New York National Guard. In 1900 he went to New York and engaged in the life insurance business there. He followed the same line in Minneapolis, to which city he next moved, but later accepted a position in the circulating department of the Minneapolis Tribune. In 1903 he came to Austin, and has since had charge of the circulation of that paper in Austin and southern Minnesota. He is a Repub-

lican and a member of the B. P. O. E. Mr. Dahmen was married October 2, 1899, at Jamestown, N. Y., to Emma Stranburg, daughter of F. O. Stranburg, a prominent undertaker of Jamestown, N. Y., now deceased. Mrs. Dahmen was born at Jamestown, November 22, 1874, and in that place her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Dahmen have two children: Lloyd C., born September 9, 1900, and Grace H., born February 22, 1903.

H. G. Dahl, successful hardware merchant of Lyle village, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, October 5, 1871, son of H. O. and S. H. Dahl, natives of Norway, who came to America as children, lived in Rock county until 1873, and then engaged in farming in Mitchell county, until they moved, in 1882, to their present farm of 120 acres of excellently cultivated land. H. O. Dahl died July 23, 1908, and his wife still lives on the old homestead. H. G. Dahl received his education in the public and high schools and in the academy at St. Ansgar, Iowa. He started work in life as a clerk and worked for E. L. Stanley, R. Reirson and the Wilson Brothers before embarking in the hardware business with Colburn J. Colbertson. The business has grown to large proportions, and the store carries a good stock of all kinds of hardware, plumbing and heating equipment, tinware, pianos and organs, the plumbing department being well equipped for work in village and country. Mr. Dahl is a Republican, has been assessor of the village of Lyle two terms, member of the city council one term, and treasurer of the school board five years. He has shown his interest in the welfare of the village by subscribing to stock in the Lyle Telephone Company. The subject of this sketch was married October 15, 1898, to Emma Volstad, daughter of G. K. Volstad, and this union has been blessed with five children: Lloyd F., Genevieve S., Fred E., Glenn H. and Evangeline H., born October 20, 1910.

E. S. Evenson, one of the leading farmers of Windom township, and veteran of the Civil war, was born in Norway, November 18, 1845, son of Stener and Rondi (Knutson) Evenson, who came to America in 1849, and settled in Green county, Wisconsin, coming to Minnesota in 1862, and settling in section 31, Windom township, where the son, E. S., now lives. E. S. came to America with his parents as an infant, was reared in Wisconsin, and as a young man enlisted in a company of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He saw active service in the war, and was discharged at Vicksburg, Miss., August 9, 1865. After the war he came to Windom township, to which locality his parents had in the meantime moved, and has since farmed on section 31. He has been successful in his operations, and is respected and liked throughout the community. He married Mary Hanson, and they have seven children: Rondi, wife of Peter Lawson; Hans and Ben,

of Nevada township; Edward, of Adams township; Minnie, now deceased; William, of Lyle township; and Julia, wife of Nels Nelson, of Nevada township.

Joseph H. Furtney, a successful liveryman of Austin, was born August 24, 1875, son of Josiah S. and Sarah (Hibbard) Furtney. He attended the schools of his neighborhood, and then took up mason work with his father, remaining at this work until he gradually became interested in the livery business. For the past six years he has been a member of the firm of Furtney & Bassett. Mr. Furtney married Ida Nelson, and they have three children: Florence, Herbert J. and Donald. Mr. Furtney belongs to the F. O. E. and the M. W. A.

Josiah S. Furtney, for many years a farmer and mason in Mower county, was born in Canada, his father being a native of Pennsylvania, and his grandfather of Germany. Josiah S. married Sarah Hibbard, and after a period spent in Decorah, Iowa, came to Austin, in which vicinity he lived until his death in 1902. He had seven children: Minnie, Joseph H., Harry M., Lottie M., Lottie, Roy, Ada and Vera.

Alfred D. Fairbanks, now deceased, was born in Vermont, there grew to manhood, and at the outbreak of the Civil war enlisted in the United States Sharpshooters, serving in Company E. He married Belle A. Baker, and together they went to live in Bethel, Vt., where Mr. Fairbanks worked three years on a farm in hopes of regaining his health, which had been impaired by army life. Then they came west and located in Mower county, taking up their home in the historic spot long known as "Saints' Rest." Seventeen years later ill health caused him to abandon farming, and in 1891 they moved to Austin, where Mr. Fairbanks died April 4, 1899. Mrs. Fairbanks, nee Belle A. Baker, was born in Hollidaysberg, Pa., daughter of Abram P. and Elizabeth (Kidd) Baker. Mrs. Fairbanks passed her early life in her native town, attended school there, and later took courses at Philadelphia and at Altoona, Pa. She was married at her home in Hollidaysberg. Three of her sisters are still living: Ann is now Mrs. William Kean, of Bedford, Pa.; Maria is now Mrs. Harry Campbell, of Chicago, Ill., and Jennie is now Mrs. James Lightcap, of Alleghany, Pa.

Edward Goebel, Jr., who conducts a farm at 1200 Freeborn street, just inside the city limits of Austin, was born in Claremont, Minn., July 21, 1883, son of Edward and Amelia (La Sage) Goebel, natives of Wisconsin. He received his education in the public schools of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, his first venture for himself being as a papermaker at Appleton, Wis. Then he learned the machinist's trade, and worked in the shops at Eagle Grove, Iowa, until 1902, when he became chauffeur at Kan-

sas City, Mo., for five years. From June to November, 1908, he had a similar position at Callander, Iowa. Late in the fall of that year he came to Austin, where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. Mr. Goebel was married November 2, 1904, at Ft. Dodge, Iowa, to Louise Peterson, of Callander, Iowa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Peterson. To this union have been born three children: Marvin E., born October 22, 1905; Harold P., born April 12, 1906, and an infant, born August 16, 1910. Edward Goebel, Sr., and Amelia La Sage, his wife, were natives of Wisconsin. Edward, Sr., was in the livery business in Eagle Grove, Iowa, for about eighteen years, and in 1893 came to Austin and engaged in the livery business. He is now retired and lives in La Crosse, Wis.

L. C. Gillett, a retired farmer now living in the village of Brownsdale, has taken his part in the life of the community, having served at various times as township supervisor, village councilman and district school clerk. He was born in Putnam county, New York, November 4, 1833, and with his parents went to Berkhamen county, Missouri, where the family remained nine years. Then they went to Vernon county, in the same state, and there the father died, after a residence of twenty-three years. In 1867 L. C. Gillett, with his wife and mother, came to Austin, and remained four years, afterward taking up their residence in Red Rock township, where Mr. Gillett farmed twenty-five years, after which he retired. He has occupied his present comfortable residence in Brownsdale since 1904, his wife being now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Gillett were blessed with six children: Hattie, deceased; Delia, wife of C. A. Sleeper; Edna, deceased; Ulysses S.; Gordon L., deceased, and Nora, wife of Henry Woodward.

John Gilligan, a well known and popular citizen of Adams, was born in Ireland, son of Patrick and Mary (Hart) Gilligan. He came to this country with his parents, lived with them in New York and New Jersey. He came with them to Adams township, and grew to manhood on section 16. In 1872 Mr. Gilligan purchased the north half of the southeast quarter of section 36, erected some excellent buildings and there carried on general farming until 1898, when he retired from active farm life and moved to Adams village. Mr. Gilligan is a gentleman of the old school, courteous in his bearing, and charitable toward all. He married Mary Madden in April, 1871, her parents being William and Bridget Madden. In the family there are three children: John J., Walter H. and Mary C. The subject of this sketch has filled various positions of trust and honor in township and village, and has also served with credit as county commissioner.

Patrick Gilligan, an early settler, was born in Ireland in August, 1822, and was there married to Mary Hart in January.

1844, the fruit of this union being three children: John, Mary and Charles. Patrick brought his family to the United States in 1849, leaving Ireland March 3 and arriving in New York after a voyage of four and a half weeks. He at once went to New Jersey, where he hired out on a farm, remaining eight years, after which he went to New York state, remaining about a year. Then he came to Mower county and settled in section 16, in Adams township, on which he built a log cabin, thatched with hay. After living in this building some two years he erected a more commodious dwelling, in which he resided eighteen years, after which he purchased the southwest quarter of section 15 and erected a large farm house, in which he made his home until his death.

Jeremiah Guinney, now deceased, was one of the early merchants of Austin. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1842. His parents died when he was a child. When he was eleven years of age he landed in America with his brothers. In the spring of that year located in Boston, and in the fall Jeremiah moved to Illinois, where he remained three years. It was in 1856 that he came to Red Rock township, in this county. He learned the harnessmaker's trade. In 1868 he formed a partnership in the same business with a Mr. Kaiser, and this partnership continued until the death of Jeremiah Guinney, December 13, 1890. The subject of this sketch married Mary Welch, a native of County Cork, Ireland, daughter of John and Anora (Keefe) Welch. Mrs. Guinney is the mother of four children: Anna, living at home; Daniel, a harnessmaker by trade; Minnie E., a bookkeeper at the Albert Thon dry goods store in Austin, and Lauretta, a stenographer and bookkeeper.

Edward Gurvin, chairman of the board of supervisors, of Adams township, was born in the township where he still resides December 13, 1873, the son of Peter and Kate Garvin, natives of Norway. He attended the district schools, and remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he started out in life for himself. He started by renting land, and at this was very successful. He now works the home place and several tracts adjoining, making a total of 400 acres under his supervision. On this farm he conducts general farming, making a specialty of Short-horn cattle for dairy purposes, the cream from this herd being sold to the Adams Co-operative Creamery, in which he is a director. Eight years ago Mr. Gurvin, who is a Republican in politics, was elected a member of the board of supervisors of Adams township, and after three years in this capacity he became chairman, a position he has held for the past five years with much credit. He is a popular member of the M. W. A. and attends the Lutheran church.

Peter Gurvin and Kate Gurvin, his wife, were born in Norway.

They came to America before the Civil war and lived for a time in Madison, Wis. There Peter farmed for several years and then started with his ox team and prairie schooner across the country. Upon reaching Adams township he purchased eight acres in section 13, and farmed there until his death, December 27, 1910. He had three sons. Edward manages the home place. Nels is in the machine and automobile business in Adams village. Knute is general agent at Adams for the Acme Harvester Company and enjoys a large trade.

James Keenan was born in Mount Pleasant, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, son of James and Elizabeth (Farwell) Keenan, who brought their family to Oakland, Freeborn county, this state, in 1867. James, Jr., received a good common school education, and after coming west he and his brother, Joseph, engaged in the manufacture of carriages and wagons. After six years of this business, however, the brothers discovered that they could buy the vehicles cheaper than they could make them, so they abandoned the manufacturing end of the business, and devoted themselves to selling what they shipped in. In 1906 this business was discontinued, and since then Mr. Keenan has looked after his numerous financial interests and his real estate business. Mr. Keenan is an extensive traveler, and has visited many lands. For his first wife Mr. Keenan married Bella Hall, a native of Massachusetts. After her death he married Katherine E. Dunavone, who has proved a most able helpmeet. James Keenan, Sr., was a noted shipbuilder on the Atlantic coast, in the early part of the nineteenth century. His ability and skill were widely acknowledged, and his name was known wherever ships were constructed. He worked in Boston and New York for many years, and after the war of 1812 assisted in rebuilding the American navy, working on such vessels as the Hornet, which in those days were considered as monarchs of the seas. For seven years Mr. Keenan, Sr., was with the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, superintending the construction of all the boats built by this company at Honesdale, Pa. In 1867 the family came west and settled on a farm in Oakland, Freeborn county, Minn., where James, Sr., farmed until his death, in 1879. He married Elizabeth Farwell, who bore him five children: Mary, now Mrs. Reily; John, living in Winona; James, Joseph and Michael J., living in Austin.

Hiram F. Kezar, merchant of Sargeant village, was born in Beaver Dam, Wis., August 12, 1870, son of Alvin Kezar, marshal of Waltham village, and Ellen Markham, his wife, the father, Alvin, and the grandfather, Hiram, both having been born in the same house in Macenia, St. Lawrence county, New York. Hiram F. spent his boyhood on a farm in Waltham township, there grew to manhood, took up agricultural pursuits and was thus engaged

until 1907, when he came to Sargeant village and opened a store. Mr. Kezar is a Mason. He was married a few years ago to Rebecca Johnson, daughter of George Johnson, and they have one child, Lyle T.

Alvin T. Kezar, marshal of Waltham village, was born in Macenia, St. Lawrence county, New York, May 18, 1845, son of Hiram and Catharine (Nesdel) Kezar. The father was born in the same house as his son, and was a genuine Connecticut Yankee. The mother was a native of Ireland. The father and his family came west in 1854, and settled at Beaver Dam, Wis., where he farmed for eighteen years. Mrs. Catherine Kezar died in Beaver Dam, and in 1872 the father, Hiram, and the son, Alvin, started farming in Waltham township, near the village. In 1896 Alvin T., the subject of this sketch, received his appointment as marshal, a position he has since held with discretion, courage and integrity. He is a Republican and a member of the Modern Woodmen. Mr. Kezar was married some years ago to Ellen Markham, daughter of Walter Markham, and to this union have been born two children, Hiram and Myrtle. Hiram lives in Sargeant. Myrtle married George Nichols and they have one daughter, Bessie.

William Kuchenbecker, business man of Waltham, was born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, March 19, 1871, son of William and Louisa (Railer) Kuchenbecker, who came to America from Germany in 1850, and located in Crawford county, Wisconsin, where they farmed until 1887, in which year the father died. A son, Alfred, then bought the old homestead, and the mother moved to Prairie du Chien, where she still lives. William, the subject of this sketch, received his education in Crawford county, Wisconsin, and there engaged in farming until 1890, when he came to Mower county and worked on a farm in Red Rock township for seven years. Then he rented a farm in Waltham township for a similar period. Then he came to Waltham village, and was clerk in a meat establishment, also operating a steam threshing machine. In the fall of 1908 he embarked in the meat business for himself. Now does a large business, has an extensive trade, and prepares most of his own fresh meats, as well as hams, bacon, sausages and the like. In company with his brother, Louis, he is still in the threshing business and reaps a goodly profit in this line every fall. Mr. Kuchenbecker lives in Waltham village, votes independently and belongs to the Lutheran church. William Kuchenbecker is the fourth of six brothers. Alfred, Oscar and Rudolph live in Crawford county, Wisconsin; Louis lives in Waltham; Hiram lives in Prairie du Chien.

George Larson, buttermaker at Lansing, was born in Denmark in 1881, and was reared in the home of his parents, John and Margaret (Rasmussen) Larson, attending the common schools

and learning the buttermaker's trade. He came to America in 1904, lived in New York city a year, and then came to Lansing, where he has since been engaged with the Lansing Co-operative Creamery. This is an important concern and turns out on an average of three thousand pounds a week. Mr. Larson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of the World. He married Loretta Sevay, and they have one child, Vera Isabell.

William Logue, genial proprietor of the Merchants' Hotel, at Adams, was born in Ottawa, Canada, October 31, 1857, son of Patrick and Margaret (McGee) Logue, natives of Ireland, who came to Canada and remained for a period of six years, after which they came to the United States and located at New Oregon, Howard county, Iowa, where the former engaged in house moving and contracting, which vocation he followed until his death, July 20, 1882, his wife passing away at Minneapolis, September 15, 1877. William received his education in New Oregon, Iowa, and worked out by the month until twenty-one years of age. Subsequently he was engaged as follows: teaming for the Great Northern railroad at Minneapolis for four months; working for a bottling company at Minneapolis a little over a year; working for Moss & Davis, wholesale liquor dealers of Minneapolis, one year; conducting a well drilling business at New Oregon, Iowa, eleven years; managing a hotel at LeRoy, this county, two years; managing a hotel in Adams two years; managing a hotel at Lyle a year; managing for three months the Sweet Hotel, at LeRoy, which he erected; working at the well drilling business in Owatonna one year; managing a hotel at New Richland, Waseca county, for one year; engaging in the electric light business in Owatonna one year; working as collector for the Sherman Nursery Company, of Charles City, Iowa, four years; managing a hotel at Gilbert, Minn., for six months, and managing a hotel at Stewartville, Minn., for six months. In September, 1910, he came to Adams, and has since been proprietor of the Merchants' Hotel. Mr. Logue is a Republican in politics, a member of the Catholic church and of the Knights of Pythias. The subject of this sketch was married June 24, 1890, to Bridget Fitzgerald, daughter of Michael and Bridget Fitzgerald, of Clermont, Fayette county, Iowa, where she was born February 2, 1860. Her father died February 16, 1873, and her mother December 9, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Logue have two children: Alfred, born April 21, 1891, a student at the Virginia, Minn., high school, and May A., born November 5, 1900, living at home.

William P. Lewis, merchant of Grand Meadow village and formerly county commissioner of Mower county, was born in Kenosha county, Wisconsin, July 13, 1855, son of William and Eliza (Bennett) Lewis, early settlers. William P. assisted his

parents on the farm and later took up the meat business, which he has followed since 1905. His business during this period of fifteen years has continued to grow, and he recently moved into a large store formerly occupied by the Exchange State Bank. Aside from the office mentioned above, Mr. Lewis was one of the supervisors of Grand Meadow township for thirteen years. He married May Turner, daughter of Hiram and Eunice (Mathews) Turner, and has two children, Joseph and Elwin.

William Lewis was born in England, married Eliza Bennett, lived for a time in Wisconsin, and came to Grand Meadow township in 1864, remaining here until his death, in 1890. His wife died five years later.

O. D. Lambert, who lives in Brownsdale, is now practically retired from active participation in farm life. He was born in East Hamlin, Monroe county, New York, October 19, 1851, son of Peter and Eveline (Simmons) Lambert. He moved to Illinois about 1880, and there remained several years. He dates his residence in Mower county from 1884, in which year he came to Red Rock and purchased a quarter section of land which he improved and cultivated. Here he remained and successfully conducted farming operations until he came to the village of Brownsdale to live. On March 7, 1877, he married Clara Hampton, daughter of William Hampton, of Illinois, and there were three children: W. P., born October 13, 1880; J. V., January 15, 1881, and Clair A., who was born January 10, 1888, and died January 20, 1889. Mrs. Lambert died March 5, 1889. March 12, 1891, he married Margaret Cutts, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Barnes) Cutts, early settlers of DaKalb county, Illinois, and of English descent.

Nels Mickelsen, contractor and concrete manufacturer of Austin, was born in Denmark, October 18, 1865, son of August and Mary (Jensen) Mickelsen, natives of Denmark, where they lived and died, the father passing away in 1878 and the mother in 1902. Nels received some schooling in Denmark, and came to America in 1886, locating six months later in Rochester, Minn. Then, after three years there, he took a trip west through the mountains of Wyoming, Colorado and Utah. Then he returned, and after a year in Rochester came, in 1892, to Austin, where for a time he followed his trade as a bricklayer, also doing some contracting. In 1904 he started in the cement business, with a fine plant on River street, where he manufactures cement tiles and blocks. He also owns a fine home and ten acres of land on South Kenwood street. Mr. Mickelsen is a Republican in politics, attends the Lutheran church, affiliates with the Masonic order, and belongs to the M. W. A. and the Danish Brotherhood. He was married November 30, 1892, to Julia Johnson, of Rochester, and this union has been blessed with seven children: Emma,

Harold, Eda, Meta, Ervin, Paul and Esther, all of whom are at home.

Edwin W. Marsh, treasurer and manager of the Austin Cement, Stone and Tile Company, was born in Mason City, Iowa, April 2, 1867, there received his education, and then took up contracting and building at Mason City, following this for ten years, at the end of which time he entered into the retail meat business for four years. He came to Austin and took up the meat business here for ten years, after which he became interested in cement products, and helped to organize the company with which he is at the present time connected. Mr. Marsh resides at the corner of College and Greenwich streets. While in Mason City he served five years as a member of Company A, Sixth Regiment, I. N. G., and for four years served as chairman of the Democratic County Committee of Cerro Gordo county, Iowa. He was married February 7, 1888, at Mason City, to Esther Hurlbert, and this union has been blessed with one daughter, Beryl E., born August 31, 1889, now a school teacher. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

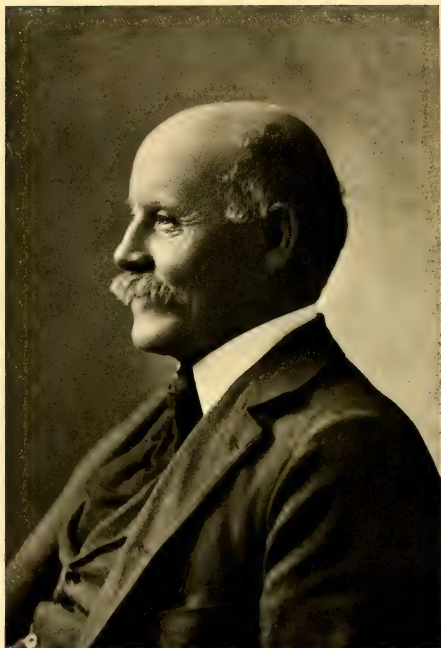
C. H. Metgaarden, a Lansing township farmer, now living in the city of Austin, was born in Norway in 1845, came to America in 1887, located in Ward county, Iowa, and there remained until 1903, when he came to Lansing township and purchased the Jensen farm. Later he took up his abode in Austin. He married Mary Knudtson, and they have four children: Holiver; Rena, now Mrs. Jacobson; Kanute and Christianna.

John McBride, an honored resident of Windom township, now deceased, was born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1829. He was reared to agricultural pursuits, and at nineteen years of age, in 1848, he came to America, locating in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. Later he went to Iowa. There he remained until 1865, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Windom township, Mower county, where he purchased the northeast quarter of section 1, on which wild prairie land he conducted general improvements, erected buildings and carried on diversified farming. Later he added 160 acres in section 6, Marshall township, making in all a fine farm of 320 acres. He made a specialty of raising grain and high grade stock and continued as a hard working farmer until about 1900, when he rented his farm, later, in 1902, purchasing a home in Rose Creek, to which village he moved, and spent the remainder of his days in well deserved retirement. Mr. McBride was a member of the school board, a Democrat and a Catholic. He died at his home, January 1, 1904. The subject of this sketch was married February 14, 1857, at Galena, Ill., to Mary Furlong, born in County Tipperary, Ireland, September 28, 1833. She came to America in 1852 with her parents, William

and Sarah (Carter) Furlong, landing in New York, January 13. Later she went to Illinois with her parents, was there married, and came to Minnesota with her husband. Mr. and Mrs. McBride were the parents of eight children: Charles is married and lives in North Dakota, having a family of four children: Mary, Grace, Elizabeth and George. Sarah A. married Thomas Skahan, of Windom township, and they have two children, William and Erma. James A. is married, lives in Weyburn, Canada, and has six children: Dency D., Arthur, Leo, Herbert, Dorathy and Aaron. Katherine A. married Leahy, of Windom township, and they have seven children: Mary, Madeline, Joseph, John, Ambrose, Raphael and Norbert. William is married, lives in Washington, and has four children: Loretta, Esther, John and William. John J. is married, lives at Vienna, S. D., and has three children: Mary, Francis and Cicily. Mary R. died March 1, 1904, leaving two children: Mary M. and John E., who were taken by the grandmother, with whom they lived until they again took up their home with their father in 1910. Margaret A. married M. P. Reagen, of Windom township.

Harry G. McKee, retired blacksmith of LeRoy village, was born in the old village of LeRoy, May 26, 1858, son of Elijah McKee, the pioneer blacksmith of Mower county. Harry G. was reared in the village of LeRoy, entered his father's shop and learned the blacksmith business in all its details, conducting the establishment alone after his father's death. In 1909 he retired, and is now living in his pleasant home in the village of LeRoy. Mr. McKee is a Republican in politics, and has served on the village council. He is also a member of the M. W. A. Mr. McKee was married December 25, 1880, to Edith Bowen, daughter of William and Mary (Ross) Bowen, the former of whom was killed in the Civil war and the latter of whom died in 1897. Mrs. McKee died December 9, 1897, leaving three children. Bessie E. is a teacher in Seattle, having graduated from the LeRoy high school. Raymond L. Brown is the husband of the second daughter, Eula L. Floy, the youngest daughter, is studying domestic science in the Minnesota Agricultural College at St. Paul. It is worthy of note that Mr. McKee's property was swept away by the cyclone of September 21, 1894.

Elijah F. McKee, the pioneer blacksmith of Mower county, was born in Pennsylvania, and reached Mower county February 22, 1855, being married in the old town of LeRoy, July 2, 1857, to Mary E. Taylor, who arrived in the county in 1856. February 26, 1855, he opened the first blacksmith shop in the county, in section 36, in what is now LeRoy township. April 13 the same year he moved to the old town of LeRoy and built a blacksmith shop, continuing the business of smithy for the remainder of his



JOSEPH M. MAXFIELD.

life. He died September 29, 1897, and his wife is still living at the age of seventy-four years. In the family were six children: Harry G., Winfield, dead; Clark, Carrington, N. D.; Frank, Seattle; Margaret, Montana, and Lillie, now Mrs. George Magee, of Seattle.

Joseph M. Maxfield, retired grain buyer and farmer, now living in LeRoy village, was born in Wayne county, New York, February 24, 1844, son of Joseph and Artimisia (Munson) Maxfield. He came to Wisconsin with his parents in 1855, and to LeRoy in 1862. After completing his education, he farmed eleven years, and then became a grain buyer and sold goods for Frank Avery. Then he engaged in the livery business with his brothers until 1904, when he retired. Mr. Maxfield owns his home in LeRoy village, a quarter section in Howard county, Iowa, and sixty-two acres in Mower county. He has been justice of the peace many years and constable for five years. He is a Republican, a Knight Templar, and a Presbyterian.

Joseph Maxfield was born in Syracuse, N. Y., July 28, 1815, and was married September 27, 1840, at Wayne county, New York, to Artimisia Munson, born at Tulley, N. Y., May 12, 1820. In 1855 they located in Wisconsin, and in 1862 came to LeRoy township, where they purchased a farm of 150 acres, which they broke and improved, adding other land until they owned 230 acres. In 1871 they retired and moved to LeRoy village, Joseph dying May 12, 1884, and his wife October 27, 1904. They were members of the Presbyterian church of LeRoy. Mr. and Mrs. Maxfield were the parents of six children. Glover lives in Mason City, Iowa; J. M. lives in LeRoy; Aldice died in September, 1903, at Corvallis, Oregon; Sarah is now Mrs. M. H. Miller, of Taopi, Minnesota; Martha A. keeps house for her brother, J. M., at LeRoy; Richard is a liveryman at LeRoy.

Nicholi Nicholsen, now deceased, was born in Norway, and came to America in 1868, locating in Austin, where he was employed at various labor, until his marriage, after which he engaged in the pump business, continuing until the time of his death in 1895. He was a consistent Christian, and a member of St. Olaf Lutheran church.

G. R. Nichols, a general merchant of Waltham, has built up a successful trade, the fact that until recently he was a farmer making him particularly adapted to keeping a store in the rural districts. He was born in Somerset county, Maine, March 26, 1866, son of Charles and Clara (Hill) Nichols. Charles Nichols was born in Maine, came west in 1869, and settled on a farm in Waltham, where he lived until his death in 1900. His wife is still living, making her home with a daughter. The subject of this sketch remained on the farm until attaining manhood's estate,

receiving his education in the district schools. He purchased the home farm, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1907, when he came to the village and engaged in his present business. He has been assessor of township and village for twenty years, and has performed the duties of that office to the general satisfaction of his fellow citizens. Mr. Nichols was married some years ago to B. Martha Kezer, daughter of Alvin T. Kezer, and to this union has been born one daughter, Bessie.

John E. Norris, lumber dealer of Lyle, was born in Lyle township, in March, 1872, and thus has the honor of being a native son of this county. His parents were John and Marie E. (Spears) Norris, of Scotch-Irish descent. John E. received his education in the schools of Lyle township and also at Old Otranto, in Iowa. He farmed with his parents for a time, and then with them went to North Dakota, where he and his father purchased a whole section of land. In 1905 they sold out, and John E., on his return to Lyle, purchased the lumber yards of L. W. Sherman. He has a large trade and is the only lumber dealer in the village. Mr. Norris is an independent voter, and while in North Dakota was chairman of the township board. He is now a member of the village council of Lyle, belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and the K. of P. and attends the Presbyterian church. He was married October 19, 1908, to Mary E. Roulston, of Oakland village, Iowa.

John Norris was born in the north of Ireland of Scotch parentage, and came to America at the age of nine years. He located in Wisconsin, married Marie E. Spears, and there remained until 1868, when he came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres, also acquiring a similar tract in Freeborn county. From 1883 to 1890 he conducted the flouring mill at Old Otranto, Iowa, and then sold and went to North Dakota. About six years later he came to Lyle once more, his wife passing away in 1905.

Abe Olson, of Lansing township, one of the progressive farmers of Mower county, was born in Neury, Freeborn county, Minnesota, April 9, 1859, son of Helge and Kari Olson, the former of whom, coming to America in 1855, was one of the first settlers in Freeborn county. Abe Olson was one of ten brothers and three sisters. He passed his early life on the farm, and came to Mower county about twenty years ago (1890). He now owns 180 acres of land, and has made his place one of the model farms of the township, his fine house, commodious and modern barns, and well-tilled acres being hard to excel. Besides carrying on general agricultural pursuits, Mr. Olson is a breeder of Belgian horses and owns some of the most valuable pieces of horse flesh in the state, having taken many prizes. He also makes a specialty of breeding fine Jersey hogs. The subject of this sketch

was married many years ago to Carrie Nelson, a daughter of Iver and Chersty Nelson.

Anfend Olson, village marshal of Adams, and superintendent of the municipal gas and water plants, was born in Norway, March 23, 1866, son of Ole Johnson and Martha Thompson, his wife, natives of Norway, where the father died. Anfend received his education in the public schools of Norway, and came to America in 1882, locating in De Forest, Wisconsin, where he worked out as farmer and stone mason, until 1893, when he came to Minnesota and purchased a farm of 120 acres, on section 6, Lodi township, which he improved and developed, erecting buildings and cultivating the land, still combining masonry and general farming until 1900, when he sold his farm, and for nine years devoted his entire time to the trade of stone mason. In July, 1910, he was elected marshal of Adams village, and superintendent of the gas and water plants. He is a Republican in politics, attends the Lutheran church and belongs to the Commercial Club. In addition to his present offices, he has served as a member of the village council. Mr. Olson owns a pleasant residence in the village of Adams, three lots in Minneapolis, and 100 acres of timber land in Aitkin county, this state. He was married October 26, 1896, to Carrie Munson, who died in 1897. Mr. Olson brought his mother to this country in 1885, and she still presides over his household.

Joseph Palmer, of Austin, now retired, a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, September 25, 1830, and received his early education in the public schools of his native state. In 1856 he came to Illinois, and in 1860 to Fillmore county, locating in Austin in 1875. He followed various vocations from that time until his retirement in 1908. In July, 1864, Mr. Palmer was drafted into the Union army and served in Company B, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, six months, being discharged at Duval Bluff, Arkansas, in December, 1864, on account of illness. For one term he served with credit as county treasurer of Fillmore county. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the Congregational church, and a good citizen in every respect. He affiliates with the G. A. R. and has the unusual record of having been a member of the I. O. O. F. for forty-four years. Mr. Palmer was married February 15, 1854, to Katherine Coleman, who died July 1, 1897, leaving four children: Fred L., now of Iowa, born December 14, 1855; Clara B., born November 25, 1863, now Mrs. George Miller, of Minneapolis; Albert, born August 28, 1867, now of Chicago; and Eunice, born December 29, 1869, and widow of Thomas Floyd, who died November 14, 1889.

Harlan G. Palmer, one of the energetic young business men of LeRoy, was born in this village, March 19, 1885, son of George W. and Mary Palmer. He attended the village schools, and grad-

uated from the LeRoy high school in 1903. Then he took a course in literature and arts at the University of Minnesota, and subsequently returned to LeRoy and purchased the LeRoy Independent, which he conducted for two and a half years. At the end of this period he sold to Ralph Prescott, the present owner and editor, and took up his father's interests in the Palmer Lumber Company, in which he has since successfully continued. Mr. Palmer is a Republican in politics, and has much faith in the future of LeRoy.

John Reding, assessor of the city of Austin, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, March 15, 1863, the son of Peter and Mary Reding, who brought their family to America in 1869, and settled in Union township, Mitchell county, Iowa. Here Peter Reding farmed about eighteen years, and here his wife died, after which he moved to Adams in this county. John Reding remained on the old place and farmed for three years, then engaged in the hardware business, which he conducted for five years. He then again took up agricultural pursuits, and farmed four years in Union township, Mitchell county, Iowa. Then he rented the farm and moved to Lyle, Mower county, where he again engaged in the hardware business, at the same time conducting a farm near the same village. Six years later he moved to the city of Austin. Mr. Reding is still interested in farming, and is one of the stockholders in the Austin Cement & Tile Co. Mr. Reding married Nellie Smith, daughter of Charles Smith, and they have three children: Marie L., Agnes V. and Esther E.

Ed. J. Show, a well-known citizen of Marshall township, was born in 1868, in the township wherein he still resides. His father, John Show, was a native of Norway, came to America, settled in Wisconsin, and later moved to Mower county, where he purchased eighty acres in Marshall township. Ed. J. was educated in the public schools, and early in life began work as a farm hand. He later rented land, and then purchased eighty acres where he now lives, making at the present time a specialty of dairying and grain raising. In 1902, the subject of this sketch married Tilda Lee, a native of Norway, and this union has been blessed with one daughter, a pupil in the public schools. The family worships at the Lutheran church.

Louis A. Sherman, secretary and treasurer of the Gilbert Improved Corrugated Culvert Co., Austin, was born in Edgerton, Wisconsin, November 20, 1870, son of Loran W. and Kate (Wilcox) Sherman. He was brought to Lyle, in Mower county, in 1871, and received his education in the public schools of Lyle, afterward taking a course in the Cedar Valley Seminary, at Osage, Iowa. After leaving school he worked at the lumber business with his father until 1906, when he engaged in the general

merchandise business with I. F. and S. H. Dahl under the firm name of Dahl Bros & Sherman. In 1908, when the Gilbert Improved Corrugated Culvert Company was organized, he assumed his present position, coming to Austin in the spring of 1909. While at Lyle, Mr. Sherman was a member of the school board, as well as village recorder, and he still retains his interests in the Lyle Telephone Company. Since coming to Austin he has allied himself with the Austin Commercial Club. The subject of this sketch was married June 27, 1893, to J. Sophie Dahl, of Otranto, Iowa. This union has been blessed with three children: Lloyd H. was born March 24, 1894, and died April 12, 1896; Marion F. was born July 13, 1896, and Fayette W. was born October 24, 1900.

George Schmidt, a valued employe of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, who has worked his way up to passenger conductor through sheer merit, was born at Kur-Hessen, Germany, August 18, 1841, the eldest of a family of seven children. George received a thorough training in the schools of Germany and remained in his native land until twenty-one years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic, locating in Ontario, Canada, for a time, and then passed over the border into Minnesota. August 12, 1867, he began his career as a railroad man, entering the shops of the Southern Minnesota railroad company, at Hokak, Minnesota, in which he spent three years as a machinist before becoming a fireman on the road. After four years of service in this capacity, he was badly injured by an accident caused through a washout and passed many months regaining his health, after which he resumed his former vocation as a machinist for a period of two years, subsequently returning to firing, and in 1880 was promoted to engineer in the freight service. Eight years later he was given his position as passenger conductor, which he still holds, being one of the oldest and most trusted employes on the southern Minnesota division, having endured through the various managements, and, being recognized as one of the most valuable men, was retained when the road became a part of the St. Paul system. In politics he is a staunch Republican. He is affiliated with the Masonic order as a Knight Templar, is a member of the Ancient order of United Workmen and of division number 101 of the B. of L. E. The Methodist church values him as a hearty supporter, and he is also a strong temperance worker. December 17, 1867, he was married to Anna Wetyen at LaCrescent, Minnesota, who died in 1878, leaving four children: Elizabeth, who died in her nineteenth year; Angelica, now wife of Alfred Krieger, a clothing merchant of Montana; John H., a locomotive engineer, located at Ottumwa, Iowa; and Dora, now Mrs. W. L. Cowper, of Michigan City, North Dakota. He was married a second time to Catherine Wetyen, half-sister of his first wife.

They have one child, Eva E., a graduate of Hamline university, now Mrs. A. G. Scullin, of Austin. Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt have a very pleasant home at 207 West Water Street. John and Elizabeth Schmidt, parents of our subject, were natives of Germany, the father successfully conducting a tile manufactory at Kur-Hessen, being considered an expert in his line.

Arthur G. Scullin, mail clerk on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway line, and good citizen of Austin, was born June 5, 1875, in Oakland township, Freeborn county, Minnesota. After graduating from the Austin high school in 1895, he devoted the next three years to teaching school in Freeborn county, and then entered the railway mail service, at present being stationed on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, with a run from St. Paul to Decorah, Iowa. His political principles are those of the Republican party, and he is identified with the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America. The Baptist church also claims him as a loyal attendant. June 20, 1906, he was united in marriage at Austin, Minnesota, to Esther Schmidt, born to George and Catherine Schmidt, May 3, 1889, at Hokak, Minnesota. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Scullin: George S., born May 26, 1907; and Alta C., who was born April 27, 1909. George and Alta (Smith) Scullin, parents of our subject, were natives of Michigan and Pennsylvania, respectively. They were among the pioneer settlers of Freeborn county, settling on an eighty acre farm in Oakland township, in 1869, which the father operated up to the time of his death, January 27, 1899. The mother passed away March 26, 1907.

John K. Syverud has a farm of 120 acres in Lansing township which he is industriously cultivating, being justly proud of his fertile acres, his well kept buildings and his sleek looking live stock. He has lived in Lansing township since 1881, is one of the leading members of the Lutheran church and a popular brother in the Sons of Norway. The subject of this sketch was born in Norway in 1856, the son of Christian and Martha Syverud, and in 1881 came to this country, arriving in Lansing after brief stops in Waukon, Iowa, and Fillmore county, Minnesota. In 1900 he went back to the old country, married Aegmepe Kopprud and remained there two years, returning to Lansing in 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Syverud are the parents of four bright children: Carl, Clara M., Annie L., and a baby not yet named.

James Shepard, now deceased, was for many years a familiar figure in both Fillmore and Mower counties. He was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, September 29, 1831, and when but two years old was taken by his parents to Herkimer county. He spent his boyhood in the towns of Schuyler, Salisbury and Norway, and when twenty-one years of age came to Wisconsin,

where his parents had located the previous year. After remaining there a few months, he followed his parents on their further migration to Allamakee county, Iowa. In 1854 he went to Illinois and was married in Kankakee county, in December, 1855, to Desire Gates, daughter of Elijah and Rachel (Ferris) Gates. Mr. and Mrs. Shepard remained in Illinois about six months, and then took up their residence in Allamakee county, Iowa. In 1858 they started with teams for Minnesota and settled in the town of Beaver, Fillmore county, where Mr. Shepard entered 160 acres of land, in section 9, built a small frame house and improved sixty acres. In 1866 he sold out and removed to LeRoy township, where he purchased a farm in section 16. At that time there was a log cabin on the place and but twenty acres were broken. He later erected a frame house and suitable buildings, and continued to improve the land and carry on general farming until 1894, when he moved to the village of LeRoy and practically retired from active life. He died in July, 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Shepard were blessed with six children: Frank A., living in Montana; Lewis T., living at home; Emma, deceased; Addie, wife of George Turner; George M. and Eliza J., wife of John Errington. Elijah Gates was born in Vermont and came west in 1845, taking up his residence in Lake county, Illinois. There he farmed for several years and then came to Beaver, Minnesota. Late in life Mr. Gates went to Kansas and took up a homestead, where he died.

John Stute, a farmer of Mower county, now living on the old home farm of 429 acres in section 35, Nevada township, was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, in September, 1866, son of Carl and Margarette Stute, and with them came to Mower county in 1873, settling on the farm where he has since lived. Mr. Stute is a Democrat in politics, and has been a member of the township board of Nevada for the past fourteen years. He is a communicant of the Catholic church, and he and his family attend the church of that denomination at Johnsburg. Aside from carrying on general farming he makes a specialty of breeding cattle. He married Anna Landherr, daughter of Christ. and Emma Landherr, of Nevada township, and this union has resulted in four children: Bernetta, Ardilla, Sabin and Magdaline.

Carl Stute, a respected resident of Nevada township, where for many years he was a successful farmer, was born in Prussia, Germany, January 6, 1837, and came to this country in 1864, being married near Buffalo, New York, to Margarette Schwartz, daughter of John and Cathrine Schwartz, also natives of Prussia. After living for a time in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, they located in Monroe county, in the same state, and purchased eighty acres. In 1873 he sold out and came to Mower county, where he started farming, finally acquiring 429 acres, which his son John now

manages. Mrs. Carl Stute died in 1899. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stute were the parents of five children: John, of Nevada township; Henry, also of Nevada township; Augusta, married to William Baker, of Cresco, Iowa; Fred, a dentist of Elmore, Iowa; and Charles, who died in infancy.

Lewis Tow, who has charge of his father's extensive real estate interests in Mower county, lives in section 36, Windom township, and although he has lived here but three years he has taken an active interest in the progress of the community. Being yet a young man, his friends predict for him a successful future. He was born in Cedar Rapids, Benton county, Iowa, March 29, 1873, son of Lars and Julia (Strand) Tow. He received his education in the schools of Iowa, and has devoted his life to business and agricultural pursuits. Lars Tow was born in Norway and married Julia Strand. They came to America and after living three years in Illinois, located in Iowa, where they now live. Lewis Tow owns much land in Iowa, and 980 acres in Windom and Nevada townships, Mower county.

Lewis Thompson, also known as Lars Thorson, was the first Norwegian settler of Lansing township, and lived on a farm in that township forty-three years. He was born in Norway, September 13, 1827, and remained in his native country until 1845, when he came to Rock county, Wisconsin. In 1856 he came to Mower county and pre-empted a quarter section in section 7, Lansing township. He continued to reside on this place, working hard and living a frugal life, increasing his possessions until he owned 400 acres. He held various local offices, and was highly esteemed by his neighbors. After living in retirement in Austin for several years he died in 1904. He was married in Mitchell county, Iowa, August 1, 1857, to Elase Tollifson, a native of Norway, who came to Rock county, Wisconsin, with her parents at the age of ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were the parents of nine children: Jennie, Carrie, Theodore, Edward Inga, Maria, Oline, Ole, Lewis and Aaron. Carrie is the wife of C. I. Johnson, a merchant in Austin. Lena is the wife of Edward Engen. Aaron lives on the home farm and has four children: Lee, Esther, Reuben, and the baby.

Theodore L. Thompson, who has a fine farm of 160 acres in Lansing township, was born December 15, 1861, on the old Thompson homestead in Lansing township, son of Lewis and Elase Thompson, the pioneers. Theodore L. was reared on the farm, was educated in the schools of his neighborhood, and later took up farming for himself. He married Annie Olson, and they have seven children: Clara, Agnes, Hilda, Florence, Blanche, Ruth and Esther. Clara is the wife of T. Paulson.

Temam Temanson, a retired farmer of Grand Meadow, was

born in Dane county, Wisconsin, October 27, 1852, son of Teman and Inger Temanson, who came to America in 1852 and in 1865 located in Frankford township, this county, where they farmed all their lives. Teman, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the district schools and farmed with his parents until thirty-three years of age, at which time he purchased 100 acres in Frankford township. To this he later added ninety acres, thus making a fine place of 190 acres on which he farmed until 1896, when he sold his farm, and moved to Grand Meadow village, where he has since resided. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the M. W. A. and a stockholder in the First National Bank, of Grand Meadow, and in the M. W. A. hall in the same place. He attends the Lutheran church. Mr. Temanson was married June 22, 1879, to Mary Severson, who has proven a capable helpmeet.

Burr Beneke is a prominent citizen of Waltham township, has been a resident of the township since 1870, has served as supervisor of his township as well as clerk of the school board, and at the present time is doing excellent service as town treasurer. Burr Beneke was born near Berlin, Germany, November 13, 1858, son of Frederick and Julia (Miesel) Beneke, who brought their family to America in 1868, settled near Rochester, Olmsted county, and there resided until 1870, when they came to Waltham and settled in section 30, where Frederick ended his days in 1898 and Julia in the spring of 1899. Burr, the subject of this sketch, attended school as a very young child in Olmsted county, and later in districts 50 and 93 in Mower county. After his marriage he took charge of the farm in section 30, where he now owns a fine farm of 200 acres, in addition to eighty acres in Udolpho township. The family home, which was originally erected in 1883, was remodeled in 1896 and is now a comfortable residence, well furnished throughout. The subject of this sketch married Matilda Kroening, and they have eight children: Edward, Clara, Lillie, Alma, George, Helen, Ernest and Stella. The parents of Mrs. Matilda (Kroening) Beneke were Herman and Hulda (Brogge-man) Kroening, the former of whom was born in Germany, came to America in 1872, located first in Milwaukee, and later in Waltham township, this county.

Lorenzo S. Chapman, of Waltham, station agent, bank cashier and village clerk, was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, May 28, 1862, son of William W. and Elizabeth (Palmer) Chapman. He received his early education in the district and graded schools of his native county, and also attended the normal school in that county as well as the one in Crawford county, Kansas. He taught school for a time in Green Lake county, and then became a carpenter and painter for a few years. In 1888 he

entered the employ of the Minnesota & Northwestern, now the Chicago Great Western, as agent and operator at Renova, Minn. In 1889 he was transferred to Waltham as agent and operator, and in this capacity he has since continued. Before assuming his present position in the Waltham State Bank he was its vice-president three years. His clerkship of the village dates from the original organization. Mr. Chapman was married April 28, 1889, to May Rockwell of Brownsdale, daughter of Alfred Rockwell and his wife, the former of whom died in 1900, and the latter of whom is still living in Brownsdale. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman have two children: William Alfred, who was born March 4, 1890, is assistant cashier in the Waltham State Bank, and Eva S., an adopted daughter, who was born June 4, 1894, lives at home. The family faith is that of the Methodist church. Mr. Chapman is a Republican, a high degree Mason, and a member of the M. W. A. William W. Chapman was born in New York state and married Elizabeth Palmer, a native of the same state. They located in Wisconsin in 1855, and farmed in Green Lake county until 1878, when they rented their farm and went to Crawford county, Kansas, where they continued farming until the winter of 1879, when William W. died. His widow returned to Green Lake county, Wisconsin, lived there until 1896, and then came to Mower county and lived with her son, Lorenzo, until her death, August 16, 1902. There were five children in the family: Z. W. lives in Northfield, Iowa; H. A. lives in Green Lake county, Wisconsin; Olive A. is now Mrs. F. L. Narcross, of Crow Wing county, Minn.; Ella is now Mrs. Charles Bassett, of Windom township; Lorenzo is a banker of Waltham village.

George A. Hormel, president of the pork packing plant of Geo. A. Hormel & Co., the leading industry in Austin, was born in Buffalo, N. Y., December 4, 1860, son of John G. and Susan (Decker) Hormel. He was educated in the public schools of Toledo, Ohio, and in early youth went to work for his father in the sheepskin tanning business. In 1876 he went to Chicago and worked in the packing house market for a year, after which he returned home and worked in the Wabash shops. Subsequently he again returned to Chicago and re-entered the packing business. Soon after he became traveling agent for J. N. Dubois, Kansas City, purchasing hides, wool and the like. Next he engaged with Oberne, Hosick & Co., in the same line of business, traveling out of Des Moines for seven years. At the end of this period he resigned, and entered the retail meat business in Austin, with a partner, under the firm name of Friedrich & Hormel. This partnership was dissolved in 1892 and the firm of George A. Hormel & Co. was formed. This plant has grown in importance, and is now one of the leading industries in southern Minnesota. It has

been an important factor in insuring the prosperity and growth of the city. The company maintains, aside from its plant, a retail store in Austin, and branches in several cities. Mr. Hormel is a Republican in politics, and a Mason of the Knights Templar degree. He has affiliated with a number of societies and organizations, and is a valued member of the Austin Commercial Club and the Union League Club of Chicago. The subject of this sketch was married in February, 1892, to Lillian B. Gleason.

Frank Irving Crane, now deceased, was one of the well-known citizens of Austin, and well deserved the honor and esteem in which he was held. He was born in Sharon, Medina county, Ohio, September 26, 1848, and lived there until 1863, when his father, William A. Crane, sold his homestead on which he had resided for thirty years and came to Minnesota. The family came across the lake to Milwaukee, and from there came to this state in an emigrant wagon. All of the family were present except Eugene, who left the party at Madison, Wis., to go to Ann Arbor to continue his law studies. The party crossed the line between Iowa and Minnesota on Frank's fifteenth birthday. The Crane family spent the winter of 1863 with Frank's uncle, William Chatfield, then living near Spring Valley. In the spring they came to Austin, reached here March 16, 1864, located in the log house on the farm that is now the property of the Oakwood Cemetery Association, and in 1865 built the brick house which still stands to the west of the cemetery. Frank worked on the farm and attended district school. In 1872 he joined his brother, Eugene B. Crane, now of Minneapolis, and worked with him as appraiser of Northern Pacific lands, and later attended a business college in Minneapolis. From there he entered the old Mower County Bank to learn more of business methods. In 1873 he went to work for William Richards, father of Mrs. Lafayette French, who conducted a lumber yard near the present C. M. & St. Paul station. Bray & French at that time also had a lumber business here, near the corner of Franklin and Water streets. In 1876 Mr. Crane succeeded Bray & French, and continued in the lumber business until the time of his death. Mr. Crane took a prominent part in all public movements, belonged to the old Board of Trade and the Booster Club, was a member of the Board of Education, was appointed on the first Library Board of the city, and was its president from its organization until his death. One of his most distinguished services was as mayor. He was elected in 1896, and it was due to his efforts that the finances of the city were put in a greatly improved condition. So great was the favor with which his official acts met that he was re-elected without opposition in 1897. He was a high degree Mason, and also belonged to the Elks. The subject of this sketch was married March 14, 1880, to

Sylvia Pettibone, of Bainbridge, Ohio. Mr. Crane and his wife were born within forty miles of each other, but never met until she came to Austin to visit her sister, Mrs. H. H. Kent. To them were born four children: Leah, Ralph, Clara and Florence. Mr. Crane lived in Austin from 1864 until the time of his death in 1910, a period of forty-six years, and his mind was a storehouse of first-hand knowledge of local history. Few events happened here in the half century of which he had no mental record. He had a wide acquaintance in his home town, his county and surrounding towns. He knew and called his friends by name in his fraternal fashion, and never forgot them. One needed to go about with him to realize the number of friends who gave him hearty greeting wherever he went. His hospitality was genuine and extended alike to rich and poor. His keen, practical mind gave him business sagacity and a cool judgment to discriminate between the real and the sham, while his warm heart taught him the worth of men and helped him to forget their failings.

John F. Cook, one of the early real estate dealers of Austin, was born in Malone, N. Y., May 13, 1823, son of the Rev. Stephen Cook, a clergyman in the Empire state in the period following the Revolution, and first pastor of the Congregational church at Austin. John F. was twelve years of age when his parents removed from Malone, and with them he subsequently lived in various places in his native state. As a young man he was engaged in various occupations, working for a time at Clintonville, N. Y., and later at Peru, N. Y., where he began his career as an office boy in a large retail store, and rapidly advanced till he became an equal partner in the business. Subsequently he went to Iowa, and during the construction of the Illinois Central through that state was engaged in railroading and in the mercantile business, being located at Waterloo and subsequently at Independence. Mr. Cook came first to Austin in 1854, but did not remain. He returned in 1856 and purchased land around Austin, and owned an undivided one-fourth interest in the original townsite. He remained here about two years, retaining his interest in a number of mercantile establishments in Iowa. He sold his interests there and returned to Austin in 1864, taking up the real estate business. He was Austin's mayor in 1870 and again in 1874. He was an active business man and a public-spirited citizen. He died at his home in Austin, December 2, 1892. The subject of this sketch married Addie E. Carpenter, and to this union three children were born: Charles F., Addie and John F.

Ira P. Chase, rural mail carrier, is one of the popular men of Dexter, and has one of the prettiest homes in the township, his place being well kept and very attractive to the passerby. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the M. W. A., and



JOHN F. COOK.

is a popular member of the local lodge of that order at Dexter. He is also a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 253, at Dexter. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, March 17, 1863, son of Amos B. and Annie (Martin) Chase, the former of whom, a native of New York state, came west, and after a few temporary stops, located in Dane county, where he farmed for many years. The subject of this sketch was reared on the home farm in Wisconsin, attended the district schools, and in 1903 came to Mower county and located in the northwest quarter of section 36, Dexter township. He married Lizzie W., daughter of Charles and Maria (Huntley) Seymour, and they have five bright children: Asa, Ina, Ray, Lena and Annie.

John H. Eckstein, a scientific and well-read farmer of Le Roy township, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, May 12, 1856, son of Herman and Fredrika (Grass) Eckstein, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. This worthy couple came to America in 1849, lived in Cleveland, Ohio, until 1856, then located in Howard county, Iowa, where they acquired 600 acres of land and engaged in farming, Herman dying August 15, 1910, while his widow still makes her home on the farm. John H. received his education in the district schools, then took up farming at home. Later he went to South Dakota, farmed there six years, and then came back to the farm in Iowa, engaging in general farming. In 1905 he came to Le Roy and purchased a tract of land in section 34, where he repaired the buildings and improved the land. He still carries on general farming and makes a specialty of stock and grain raising, taking great pride in Hereford cattle, Shropshire sheep, Chester White swine and Belgium horses. The subject of this sketch was married December 26, 1904, to Julia Aga, born at Hardanger, Norway, March 28, 1866, daughter of Mikkel and Margreta (Huse) Aga, the latter of whom died in Norway, March 21, and the former of whom came to America in September, 1906, and now makes his home with his daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Eckstein have one son, Ernest Aga, born February 27, 1909. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

Charles E. Fairbanks, a scientific farmer of Dexter township, is well known throughout the county, and his place, the "Cold Spring Farm," is one of the model farms of this part of the state. The property consists of 320 acres, well kept in every way, and cultivated with the latest improved machinery along the most modern lines. His comfortable home is a demonstration of the fact that rural life may be made most attractive, while his barns and other buildings are roomy, commodious, airy and sanitary. His sleek-looking stock, well cared for and well housed, form in the summer a pleasant feature of the pastoral landscape. Like most intelligent men, Mr. Fairbanks has a

hobby, his particular pleasure being in hunting for big game in the northern woods, to which territory he makes frequent trips during the hunting season. At home he is highly regarded and has been honored in his township with various offices, including town assessor for thirteen years, as well as treasurer. Recently he has been appointed by Gov. A. O. Eberhart as boiler inspector in the Sixth district. Charles E. Fairbanks was born near Madison, Wis., February 10, 1858, son of Caswell and Miranda (Tyler) Fairbanks, the former of whom was born near Watertown, N. Y. Charles E. was educated in the common and high schools of Madison, and attended the state normal school at Oshkosh, Wis. He came to Dexter, with his parents, at the age of eighteen, and for a time taught school in the township. He married Augusta Heath, also a well-known teacher. Mrs. Fairbanks was the daughter of Kimball and Jane (Walker) Heath, who came from New Hampshire. Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks are the parents of three children. Earle C. is in the real estate business in Minneapolis. Mary C. teaches in Duluth. Ralph B. lives at home.

Philip Heydt, a progressive citizen of Sargeant township, has been a resident of this county since the centennial year, and during that time has maintained a most honorable record. He has been supervisor, town treasurer and school director and at the present time is a director in the Farmers Lumber Company, at Hayfield. Philip Heydt was born in Germany, April 14, 1856, son of Carl and Louisa (Ruppenthal) Heydt, natives of that country. He came to America in 1872, settled at New Ulm, Minn., and remained two years. Then he worked a similar period in Norwalk, Wis. In 1876 Mr. and Mrs. Heydt came to Sargeant township and he worked for Mr. C. S. Meyer for three years, then he farmed in section 5 for himself thirteen years. Then he moved to his present location in section 8, where he owns a half section of excellent land, with a comfortable home and suitable buildings for stock, machinery and crops. Mr. Heydt was married in 1876 to Katharina, daughter of Henry Elsebach and a native of Germany. They are the parents of seven children: William H.; Lena E., the wife of the Rev. C. G. Roesti; Jacob E., Frederick C., Leonard L., Harvey A. (deceased) and Elmer O. W. H. is married to Bertha Wohlfeil; they have three children, Eva, Florence and Parl. J. E. is married to Lillian Schrapp and have one child, Lucile Vivian, a little girl. The three younger boys are home and work the home farm. Rev. and Mrs. Roesti have five children: Ernest, Katie, Ester, Ruth and Hazel.

E. F. Hunt is one of the honored residents of Waltham, in which town he is now serving his eleventh consecutive term as



PHILIPP HEYDT AND FAMILY.

town clerk. He was born in Pinkney, Lewis county, N. Y., December 3, 1839, son of Hiram and Cornelia (Hall) Hunt, who were born in New York state, migrated to Wisconsin, and then came to Brownsdale, this county, where they ended their days. E. F. attended the common schools, and later on the high school at Beaver Dam, Wis. He spent his early manhood on the farm, and in 1870 came to Waltham township, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 16. Here he built a home and other buildings, and soon added another eighty acres, thus making a fine farm, which he still cultivates. The subject of this sketch married Mary C. Kezar, at Waupun, Wis., September 17, 1864, she being the daughter of Hiram and Catherine (Nesdel) Kezar. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are the parents of six children: Mary A., Josephine A., Franklin E., Jennie and Louisa and Arthur B., who still lives at home. Mary A. married Otto Miller and they have one child, Mary G. Josephine A. married W. W. Carver and they have two children, Ethel E. and Lloyd F. Franklin E. lives in Clay county, Cromwell township, married Katherine Pick, daughter of Fisher Pick, and has one child, Veronica. Jennie married E. E. Edwards and they have two children, Everette E. and Mark W. Louisa married C. C. Lawis, and they have four children—Ward, Blanche, Merl, Violet.

Samuel P. Hambleton is one of the progressive and leading citizens of Frankford township. With the natural ability of a keen, active mind he combines a capacity for good judgment and hard work, and his influence in the community has been an excellent one. He has served the town twelve years as supervisor and for the past five years has been chairman of the town board. He is also a member of the school board of Grand Meadow village and a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery in the same place. Samuel P. Hambleton was born in Bensalem township, Buck's county, Pa., December 9, 1854, son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Stackhouse) Hambleton, native of Pennsylvania, the former of whom died in March, 1895, and the latter in January, 1899. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the district schools of his native county and completed with a two years' course in the Andalusia Hall, a school for young men located in Buck's county, Pennsylvania. After his school days were over, Samuel P. engaged in farming at home until 1886, when he came to Mower county and for five years worked in Grand Meadow township. Then he came to Frankford township and purchased eighty acres in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 19. In 1903 he purchased the other half of the same quarter. He also purchased three acres in section 30, making in all 163 acres, on which he now conducts general farming. His place is an excellent one, well tilled and well kept, and

its value is enhanced by the fact that Deer creek runs through it. The subject of this sketch was married September 29, 1880, at Buck's county, Pennsylvania, to Lidie Stout, a native of Middletown in that county, born December 7, 1857, daughter of Samuel R. and Jane M. (Hibbs) Stout, also natives of Pennsylvania. The Stout family came west in 1886, purchased 640 acres in sections 28 and 32, Grand Meadow, and there remained until Mrs. Stout's death, November 15, 1902, after which Mr. Stout moved to Grand Meadow village, where he died May 17, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Hambleton have three children: Frank S., Samuel R. and Rodman T. Frank S. was born at Bensalem, Pa., August 1, 1881, and now conducts a store and restaurant at Grand Meadow. Samuel R. was born at Bensalem, Pa., May 10, 1885, and died September 29, 1886. Rodman T. was born July 21, 1888. He is a senior at Hamline University, is editor of the Hamline Oracle, and was captain of the Hamline baseball club in 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Hambleton are members of the Methodist church. Mr. Hambleton is a member of the M. W. A., and Mrs. Hambleton is a patriotic instructor in the W. R. C.

J. P. Johnson has a well-kept farm of 240 acres in the southwest quarter of section 6, Sargeant township, where he has lived for some quarter of a century. Born in Norway, March 25, 1857, son of Peter D. Johnson, he was brought to America by his parents and reared in Dodge county, this state. Later the family came to Mower county and settled on the place where J. P. now resides, and where Peter D. died in 1909. Mr. Johnson, the subject of this sketch, married Anna Kylo, also a native of Norway, and they have twelve children: Oscar, Enen, Alma, Oneil and Selmer (twins), Bennie and Mabel (twins), Melvine, Elmer, Sanford and Clifford (twins) and Roy. The family affiliates with the Lutheran church at Hayfield.

John T. Keefe, now deceased, was known in both Mower and Freeborn counties. He was born in Ireland and came to America with his parents at the age of eight years. They settled in New York state and there he grew to manhood. He married Maryann Kerby, and continued to live in New York state until 1877, when he brought his family west and settled in Newry, Freeborn county, this state. A year later they came to Udolpho township, this county, and lived on the old Field farm. In latter years he took up his home with his daughter, Mrs. John Dennis, and died December 11, 1909.

Albert Keefe, an industrious farmer of Waltham township, was born in Bombay, N. Y., May 20, 1871, son of John T. and Maryann (Kerby) Keefe. He came to Minnesota with his parents, attended school in district 50, Udolpho, and assisted his father on the farm. When twenty-seven years of age he married Mary

Driscoll, daughter of Michael and Catherine (Pendergast) Driscoll, the former of whom was born in Ireland, came to America, located in Chicago, came to Udolpho, lived eighteen years on the George B. Hayes farm, and afterward lived twenty years in Red Rock township, subsequently going to Virginia, in this state, where he now lives. Albert Keefe and wife lived five years in Newry, Freeborn county, and then came to Udolpho and located on the Stimson place. They are now on the Budahn farm in Waltham township. They are the parents of three bright children: William H., aged ten; Irene S., aged nine, and Margaret, aged one. Mr. Keefe owns 160 acres in the township of Badger, Roseau county, Minn. He is a modern farmer and his wife has proven an intelligent and sympathetic helpmeet.

Granville Kearns, now living in retirement in Austin, is one of the few early pioneers still living in the county, he having the honor of dating his residence in this part of the state from April 28, 1856, on which day he arrived in Austin for the first time. He was born in Ontario, Canada, May 26, 1835, his parents being Robert and Nancy (Purdy) Kearns. After arriving at Austin, he went to Moscow, Freeborn county, and pre-empted land there, farming until 1900, when he retired and moved to the city of Austin, where he now resides in a comfortable home at 400 Vine street. Mr. Kearns married Julia, Lamping, daughter of Peter and Julia (Goodore) Lamping, her father being a farmer by occupation. To this union have been born four children: William F., Alice B., Charles E. and Burton G. William F. married Daisy Newell and they have five children: Ruth, Clifford, Arnold, Dorothy and Alice. Charles E. married Minnie Green, of Rockford, Ill., and they have one son, Frank. Burton G. married Carrie Branum and they have two children: Roy and Grace.

Leander Kirkland, a retired farmer now living in Austin, has the honor of having been town treasurer and chairman of the board of supervisors of the township of Red Rock at intervals for twenty-three years. He was born October 5, 1843, in Chautauqua county, New York, son of James and Phoebe (Dawley) Kirkland, both natives of New York state. Leander spent his early life in New York state, and in 1864 the family moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, settling near Decorah, where his parents died, James in 1872 and Phoebe in 1868. In 1864, immediately after his marriage, the subject of this sketch took up farming in Decorah, Iowa, and there remained until 1870, when he brought his family to Red Rock township, Mower county, and settled in section 34, where he farmed until 1906, when he practically retired and moved to Austin. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the blue lodge and the chapter in the

Masonic order and also of the A. O. U. W. He was married in New York state, September 22, 1864, to Patience Rugg, and to this union has been born one daughter, Alice P., the wife of Edwin T. Bemis, whose father, Oliver Bemis, was one of the early settlers of Austin. Mr. Kirkland is highly respected by his friends, and for many years has been one of the substantial residents of the county, his advice on important matters being often sought by the younger generations.

Harcar Lyons, an old settler, was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, son of Joseph Lyons. In 1857 he came to Mower county with his brother, John P., and settled in Lansing township. November 1, 1863, he enlisted in Co. B, Second Minnesota Cavalry, and served on the frontier against the Indians. He was honorably discharged in December, 1865, after which he returned to Lansing and resumed farming. He married, November 24, 1870, Mary A. Bernier, born October 12, 1849, daughter of Joseph and Henriette (De Mars) Bernier. This union has been blessed with two daughters: Fay Eugene and Elizabeth V. Elizabeth V. married R. L. Johnson and they have two children: Louise L. and Hazel I.

Jacob Martin, a well-liked farmer of Sargeant, was born in Cascade township, Olmsted county, this state, May 13, 1872, son of Philip and Christina (Fuchs) Martin. When ten years of age, he was brought to Mower county by his parents, and was reared on the farm in section 16, Sargeant township, completing his common school education in district 113. He now resides on the home farm of 240 acres, all under cultivation. Mr. Martin has taken a prominent part in the affairs of his township, has been in town office since twenty-two years of age, was many years supervisor, and is now school clerk and constable. He is a director in the farmers' telephone and is a member of the Diamond cornet band of Sargeant. The subject of this sketch was married October 24, 1900, to Emma Peterson, daughter of Nels and Betsey Peterson, and they had two daughters: Beulah, born April 17, 1907, and Bessie, born November 10, 1904, and died April 9, 1905.

Philip Martin, of Waltham, was born in Germany and married Christina Fuchs. He came to America in 1848, located in Jackson, Wis., and lived there until 1864, when he came to Olmsted county, Minnesota, and there resided eighteen years. In 1882 he came to Sargeant township, located in section 16, and became a prominent citizen. In 1900 he moved to the village of Waltham, and his son Jacob is now in charge of the home farm.

D. L. Mills, of Sargeant township, is one of the many modern farmers who have followed the "back to the soil" movement. After attaining success as a civil engineer and as a banker, he

has now determined to become a scientific farmer, and has started by acquiring 280 acres of good land, on which he has erected a good home and commodious outbuildings. He already has a fine lot of dual-purpose cattle, sheep and Poland-China hogs, and it is his intention to engage successfully in stock breeding for the market. Mr. Mills was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, March 6, 1879, son of John and Rose (Vorhees) Mills. The father, John, came from Ulster, Bradford county, Pa., and the mother, Rose, from Tioga county, Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1888, John Mills came to Minneapolis and engaged in the real estate business. He is now in Tacoma, Wash., in the same business. D. L. Mills attended the public schools in Minneapolis and studied engineering, which he made his profession for six years. Afterwards he went into the banking business and for five years he managed the Bank of Dexter, Minn., which he organized. In 1907 he disposed of his interest and spent two years in the state of Washington and other places, with a view to selecting a permanent home. Finally he returned to Mower county and purchased his present property. Mr. Mills married Clara J., daughter of F. C. Hartshorn, and they have five children: Carl H., Fred L., Nadine, Robert and Lila.

Michael Matter will long be honored in Waltham township for the part he had in the upbuilding of the St. Michael German Lutheran church. The first services of this congregation were held in his home, and at the organization of the church in 1873 he gave sixty acres of land for the church, school, cemetery, etc. Michael Matter was born October 19, 1798, in Luchentin, Germany, came to America in 1841, located in Wisconsin, and there lived until 1869, when he brought his wife, whose maiden name was Friderike Zulke, to Mower county, where he purchased eighty acres in section 20, Waltham township, from his son, Michael F., who came the same year. He died January 19, 1880, in Milwaukee, Wis., and his corpse was brought to Waltham, Minn., for burial at the side of his wife, who died October 18, 1872.

Michael F. Matter is a prominent citizen of Waltham township, where he has lived since 1869. He was born in Germantown, Washington county, Wis., April 21, 1848, son of Michael and Friderike (Zulke) Matter. He came to Mower county in 1869, purchased 160 acres in section 20, Waltham township, and two years later sold a half to his father. He improved and cultivated his half, erected buildings, and carried on general farming for many years. Mr. Matter is one of the oldest settlers of Waltham township. He is also the oldest member of St. Michael's church, and one of the readers in the church when the pastor is absent. He has been supervisor of the town and school treas-

urer and a trustee of St. Michael's church at its organization and several terms thereafter. Mr. Matter was married at the first meeting of the German Lutherans in Waltham township. This service was held at the home of his father by the Rev. Mr. Wier, from Lake Elmo, Washington county. His wife, whose maiden name was Therese Frohreich, daughter of Michael and Friderike (Matter) Frohreich, has borne him nine children, of which still live: Wilhelmine, Augusta, Matilda, Herman, Ferdinand and Ida. Wilhelmina married Henry Baumgartner and they have six children. Augusta married John Boeris and they have six children. Matilda married Henry Yunkans and they have seven children. Herman married Anna, daughter of Rev. F. C. Milius and they have one child, Beata. Ferdinand, Auguste and Matilda live in Wisconsin. Ida married William Suhrke and lives near Waltham, Minn.

Oscar W. Nichols, a well-liked citizen of Waltham township, in which he owns a half section of rich land, all under cultivation, was born in Moscow, Somerset county, Me., June 17, 1858, son of Charles E. and Clara L. (Hill) Nichols. The father, Charles E., came west March 8, 1869, stopped at Waukon, Iowa, a few days, and then proceeded to Rice Lake, Dodge county, Minn., where he remained four months. In September, 1869, he moved to Waltham, section 11, and there established his home. Oscar W. was reared on the farm, attended the district schools of district 58, and assisted his father in agricultural work. After his marriage he moved to his present home in section 2. His good wife, who was Maggie Baumann, daughter of George and Emily (Warren) Baumann, has borne him five children: Pearle E., George W., Cleve E., Ruth L. and Floyd O.

Manley Ousley, of the Southern Minnesota Land Company, is one of the most successful real estate dealers in this portion of the state. He was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, April 28, 1858, son of M. B. and Amanda S. (Day) Ousley. He received his early education in the public schools of Boscobel, Wis., and then learned the woolen manufacturing business from start to finish in the mills there. In 1876 he removed with his parents to Decorah, Iowa, and worked at the woolen business two years more. After this he opened a restaurant in that place, continuing the same for seventeen years. His restaurant, which bore the name of "Ousley Restaurant," was one of the finest eating houses in the state of Iowa. After selling out this place, Mr. Ousley came to Austin and purchased the Grand Hotel, which he maintained as the leading family hotel of Austin. After about fourteen years in this business, Mr. Ousley sold out and with Herbert St. Ledger entered into the real estate business under the name of the Southern Minnesota Land Company,

a company which during the past year has done over a million dollars' business. While in Decorah Mr. Ousley served on the school board, but he has always voted independently and has never cared to enter actively into politics. He is a member of the Christian Science church. The subject of this sketch was married April 13, 1879, at Decorah, Iowa, to Etta M. Kimball, a native of New York state, now the first reader of the Christian Science church at Austin. To this union two children have been born. Flora May, who was born May 30, 1886, died at the age of ten months. Walter D., born June 29, 1893, is a student in the Austin high school.

M. B. Ousley, a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Missouri, and married Amanda S. Day, of Kentucky. They located in Boscobel, Wis., and there lived for some years, going in 1876 to Decorah, Iowa, where they are now living a retired life.

Theodore Sanders, a well-known retired farmer of Austin, was born in Denmark, April 2, 1845, a son of Carl and Stina (Larsen) Sanders, who passed their lives in the native land, Denmark. Theodore received a good education in the public schools of Denmark, after which he followed farming until his emigration to America in 1867. Arriving in this country, he settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, engaging in farming there until 1875, when he removed to Mower county, Minnesota, and purchased a quarter section of improved land in section 15 of Nevada township. This was the family home for twenty years, during which time modern buildings were added, and the land greatly improved by careful cultivation, yielding rich returns in crops. In 1895, Mr. Sanders sold this property, immediately purchasing a 176-acre farm in Windom township, but on which he has never lived, at once removing to Austin with his family after the sale of the first farm. He had previously bought a ten-acre tract on South Kenwood avenue and built a home which was their residence until 1907, when he disposed of this place, and moved with his family into their present beautiful and modern home at 1101 North Kenwood avenue. Since his removal to Austin, Mr. Sanders has not been engaged in any line of work, but is enjoying a well-earned rest. He is identified with the Republican party. November 20, 1871, he was married to Mathilda Nelsen, who deceased March 26, 1909, leaving one child, Emelia, who lives at home and keeps house for her father. Carl, who died at the age of eleven years; Thorvald, deceased, aged nine, and Thora, who died at the age of eight days, were the other children of the family. The Lutheran church has always had the loyalty and support of the family.

Loran W. Sherman, for many years prominently identified with the business and civic progress of Lyle, was born in May-

ville, Chautauqua county, N. Y., March 11, 1840, son of Beman B. and Olive (Scott) Sherman. They were born respectively in Windsor county, Vermont, February 26, 1811, and in Massachusetts, August 4, 1815. They were married January 4, 1838, and lived in Mayville, N. Y., until 1856, when they removed to Edgerton, Wis., where they both died, the father in 1897, and the mother in 1876. Loran received his education in the common schools and in the Mayville academy, and came west with his parents at the age of sixteen. As a youth he engaged in farming and teaching in Rock county, Wisconsin, until August 23, 1864, when he enlisted in the Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, serving in the Army of the Potomac under General Grant around Petersburg, Va., until wounded in the final and victorious assault on that stronghold, April 2, 1865. He was discharged at Madison, Wis., June 14, 1865. At the close of the war he went to Iowa and engaged in railroad work at various points. In 1871 he became a buyer for the Bassett-Hunting Company, grain dealers, at Lyle. At the same time he became proprietor of a lumber and coal business, continuing the same until 1906, at which time he retired, moving to Minneapolis three years later. He took an active part in the affairs of the village, was elected first mayor of Lyle, served as justice of the peace for a time, and was clerk of the school district of Lyle village from its organization until 1907. He belongs to the Congregational church and affiliates with the John A. Rawlins Post, No. 126, G. A. R., of Minnesota. The subject of this sketch married, in 1868, Miss Cathleen B. Wilcox, of Pennsylvania, and of this union one son is living, Louis A. Sherman, of Austin. Mrs. Cathleen Sherman died in July, 1875. In August, 1876, Mr. Sherman married Marion F. Wilcox, and this union has been blessed with two daughters, Laura I. and Edna L., both of whom live with their parents in Minneapolis.

Byron E. Shutt, the genial proprietor of the Grand Hotel, at Austin, was born at Fort Wayne, Allen county, Ind., April 8, 1864, son of Daniel and Barbara (Cope) Shutt, the former of whom died December 9, 1906, and the latter of whom is now living at Spring Valley, Fillmore county, this state. Byron E. lived at Ft. Wayne, Ind., until eighteen years of age, and then spent a winter in Canton, Fillmore county, Minn. The following spring he went to Duluth, Minn., clerked in a hardware store a year and then returned to Canton, where he spent four years on his father's farm. Subsequently he farmed for a similar period in Iowa. Then he came to Mower county, purchased a quarter section in Frankford township, and a year later a similar tract in Howard county, Iowa. Still later he located on a farm in Racine township and farmed there until 1906, when he came to

Austin and opened a livery stable in the building that has since been remodeled as the Elk Hotel. Later he went to Cresco, Iowa, and made his first venture in the hotel business. Thus equipped with suitable experience, he came back to Austin and purchased the Grand. He conducts a first-class place in every respect, the rooms of the Grand being well furnished and comfortable at all seasons and his table being excellent in every respect. Mr. Shutt was married October 26, 1886, to Etta A. Brode, who has proven a most able helpmeet in all his undertakings. To this union have been born four children: Mark C. is a student in the State University of Iowa; Claude E. is in the Dakotas, and Joy and Etta are dead.

Ananias Sorenson has lived in Le Roy township for thirty-five years and has seen many changes in township, county and state. He was born in Norway, married Annie Ronningen Paulson, and brought his family in America in 1865, locating at Lansing, Iowa. In the spring of 1871 he moved to Winneshiek county, in the same state, and in 1876 came to Mower county, where he purchased 160 acres in section 2, Le Roy township. This land he developed, erected a house thereon and followed farming until the fall of 1888, when he sold his farm to his son, Soren A., with whom he now makes his home. His wife died August 9, 1910.

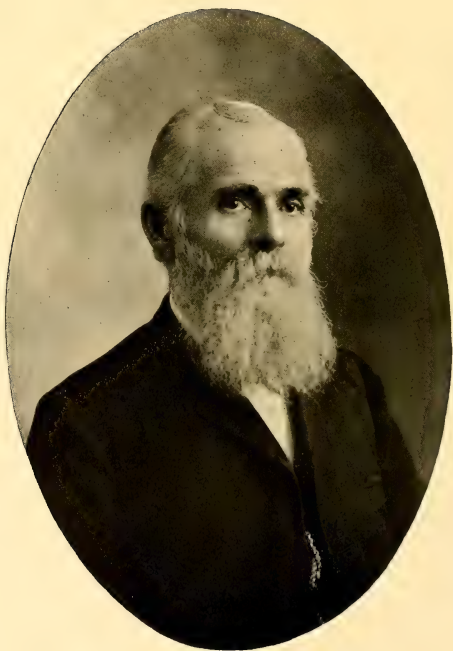
Soren A. Sorenson was born in Norway, March 27, 1860, was brought to America by his parents, lived with them in Iowa, and in 1876, centennial year, came with them to Mower county. After receiving an adequate education he worked with his father until 1888, when he acquired the home place, having in the meantime purchased eighty acres in 1885. On his farm of 240 acres he now conducts general farming and has made many improvements, including a new barn built in 1897 and a new house built in 1898. His stock consists of Poland-China hogs, Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep. Mr. Sorenson has spent practically all his manhood in Le Roy, with the exception of one year from the fall of 1887 to the fall of 1888, when he was in Canton, Lincoln county, S. D. He has taken an active part in the affairs of his neighborhood and has served continuously for twenty-two years as treasurer of school district No. 1. Aside from his farm in Le Roy he owns a 340-acre farm in Chisago county, near North Branch. The subject of this sketch was married January 23, 1891, to Miss Louisa J. Sogn, born in Lincoln county, South Dakota. This union has resulted in ten children, of whom eight are living. They are: Alice M., a graduate of the Augustana College, at Canton, S. D., and Leonard A., Mattie O., Sylvester R., Edna L., Helen S., Ruth C. and Enoch B.

Oliver T. Huntley, an industrious farmer of Le Roy township,

has the honor of being one of the few persons born in Mower county as early as 1856, having first seen the light of day in Le Roy township, April 11, 1856, just four days after the first board of appointed county commissioners had met at Frankford in their first meeting. He was reared in the home of his parents, Permanes and Eunice C. (Edson) Huntley, attended the district schools, and remained at home until twenty-one years of age, at which time he purchased eighty acres in Le Roy township, section 6. This he has since increased to 240 acres, all in the same section, and on this tract he followed general farming, making a specialty of stock and grain. He is an independent voter, has served as a member of the school board several years and belongs to the M. W. A. The subject of this sketch was married March 30, 1882, at Le Roy, to Lena Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Huntley have one son, Frank L., born December 20, 1882.

Permanes F. Huntley, a territorial pioneer, now deceased, was a man highly esteemed in the community. He was born in Manlius, Onondaga county, N. Y., May 28, 1821, and grew to manhood in his native state. May 19, 1840, he married Eunice C. Edson, and eight years later, in April, 1848, came west and settled on forty acres in Kenosha county, Wisconsin. In September, 1850, they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, and settled on a farm six miles east of Decorah. Later they located at Hickory Ridge, Alamakee county, Iowa, where they owned two farms. In June, 1853, they came to Minnesota and settled on land on which the village of Spring Valley is now located. From that place they came to Le Roy township and purchased a pre-emption claim of 320 acres in section 19. Here they carried on farming the remainder of their days. At the age of 43, in 1864, Mr. Huntley enlisted in Co. M, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, and served until the close of the war. By virtue of this service he became a prominent member of the James George Post, No. 23, G. A. R. The subject of this sketch died October 27, 1893, and his wife passed away March 22, 1901.

James M. Tanner, an honored and esteemed farmer of Red Rock township, is one of the earliest settlers of Mower county, still living, and during his residence here he has had the pleasure of seeing a wild prairie blossom forth with cities and villages, houses and barns, crops and live stock. He was born in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, December 18, 1844, son of Ebenezer E. and Lydia A. (Colby) Tanner, the former of whom was born in Tompkins county, New York, September 25, 1824, and the latter in the same state in 1827. In 1859, the family came to Red Rock township, where they lived until their death, Ebenezer E. passing away in 1878, and Lydia A. in 1860. James M. Tanner assisted his father on the home farm and received his first education



E. H. WELLS.



MRS. E. H. WELLS.

in a private school. Afterward, when the school district in Red Rock was organized, he completed his schooling in the public schools. He was hard at work on the farm when the Civil war broke out. Quick to see his country's danger, he enlisted in Co. C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until April 3, 1865, when he was discharged by reason of poor health and general disability contracted in the service. During his war career he saw strenuous fighting for a year on the frontier against the Sioux, and later participated in the battles of Oxford and Nashville, as well as in many other skirmishes. After his discharge he returned to Red Rock and resumed farming. His place, which is located in sections 11 and 12, consists of 157 acres, on which suitable buildings have been erected. His house, which is a substantial one, built in 1866, has been remodeled and repaired from time to time and now presents a comfortable and modern appearance. The subject of this sketch was married, March 10, 1867, to Lois A. Dickins, daughter of Robert and Lois A. (Tanner) Dickins. She died some years later. Later Mr. Tanner married Anna M. Colby, daughter of Amos and Mary (Stephens) Colby, the former a native of Bow, N. H., and descended from an early Colonial family. Mr. and Mrs. Tanner are the parents of Gladys G. and Pearl B.

Daniel B. Vaughan was born in Clinton county, New York, July 3, 1835, son of Benjamin and Johanna (Kimble) Vaughan, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Vermont. He went with his family to Rock and Dane counties, Wisconsin, and in 1855 came to Mower county, pre-empting land in the northwest quarter of section 15, Lansing township. Here he has since continued to live with the exception of three years spent in the army and several winters in the woods. In 1862 he enlisted in Co. C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He was married March 13, 1861, to Elsie Lyons, daughter of Joseph Lyons, and this union has been blessed with three children.

Elias H. Wells was born June 24, 1833, in Fairfax, Franklin county, Vt. He lived with his parents on their farm attending district school and working between terms until he was about fifteen years of age. As a result of overwork or overheating his system he was warned that he must leave the farm and try some less arduous way of earning a living and one more sheltered from the summer sun. Therefore he left home and up to the time he became of age was either attending school or teaching or clerking in a store in the village. When quite young, being very desirous of seeing the world outside of Fairfax, he volunteered before Vermont was blessed with railways to help take a lot of horses to Hadley Falls, Mass. There he vis-

ited relatives in different places, returning home via Albany, Troy and Whitehall, N. Y., and Burlington, Vt., partly by rail, then by canal and then by lake steamer, finishing up on the old horse-drawn stage coach. This trip is still one of his pleasantest recollections. He visited the first world's fair held in this country. This was in 1853 in New York City. He returned home via Boston and Hadley, and this, too, is one of his choicest recollections. He has had something of a mania for attending big fairs when possible. Accompanied by his wife, he visited the Centennial at Philadelphia and the expositions at Chicago, St. Louis and Portland, Ore. These trips with others to the cities of Washington, Norfolk, Pittsburg, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Victoria and other points in the British possessions he holds as more valuable assets than large accumulations of silver or gold or corporate securities or even Minnesota dirt. In October, 1854, shortly after becoming of age, he left Fairfax for the then distant West, going via Ogdensburg, Niagara Falls and Chicago. He spent about fifteen months in the states of Illinois, Iowa and the then territory of Minnesota, when St. Paul and Minneapolis were little but hills, sandy plains, shanties and great expectations. He returned to Fairfax in the winter of 1856, when at the solicitations of his parents with promise of aid, he purchased a general stock of merchandise and opened it for trade in the store in which he had formerly clerked. In the succeeding year he was elected clerk and register of deeds for the town, which office he continued to hold until after he was appointed postmaster. After serving three years he resigned this office, closed up his business and in company with the family of his wife's father, Dr. R. Soule and others, in the spring of 1865 started for Minnesota. On account of the series illness of his wife he did not reach Lansing until about the middle of July. Rochester was the nearest railway point and from there he came by private conveyance to Lansing, where he has resided ever since. While in Fairfax Mr. Wells did a general credit business. His experience in trying to collect his dues and the loss he sustained discouraged him from continuing in the business, as he once contemplated. Therefore he invested most of his money in land, expecting to improve it and hoping to get satisfactory returns by renting to others to work upon shares. This not proving quite satisfactory, he concluded to try his hand at the business and in the spring of 1870 moved onto the southwest quarter of section 14 in Lansing. Some two or three years later he went to Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and purchased a carload of high-grade merino sheep, also a pair of Shorthorn cattle. Those were specialties which he continued on the farm. Some of the time the flock of sheep, including lambs, numbered from 600 to 800, and they were a musical lot.

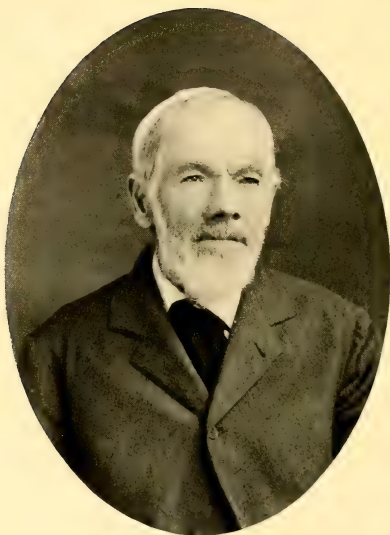
They were generally in the care of his eldest son, William L. In November, 1873, Mr. Wells was elected senator of Mower county and served during the sessions of 1874 and 1875. He introduced several bills and helped enact them into laws. Probably as beneficial as any was one that has doubtless helped many a worthy farmer to secure pay for damage caused by fires started by railway locomotives. Another he thought was meritorious was that endowing women with the right of franchise in public school matters. However, he did not find conditions in the legislature as congenial to his natural disposition as home life and was quite satisfied, therefore, to let others have the honor as well as the responsibility. As age with its infirmities grew upon him Mr. Wells gradually closed out his holdings and returned to the village to live once more. On September 14, 1859, Mr. Wells was united by marriage to Charlotte E. Soule, daughter of Dr. R. Soule, of North Fairfax, Vt. They had two sons born in Fairfax, Vt. The oldest, William L., August 20, 1861. He lived with his parents until he was married to Hattie Dearborn, of Austin, April 13, 1885, when he commenced housekeeping on section 10 in Lansing, some of the time farming in connection with his father and some of the time independently. In 1897, on account of the failure of his wife's health, he disposed of his place and moved to Austin. He purchased a home there and later bought an eighty-acre farm some three miles distant, which he rents. Most of the time since moving he has been, as he now is, connected with the postal department, city delivery, as mail carrier. They have two daughters. The oldest, Sue Ardelle, expects very soon to graduate from Hamline University. The other, Mae Elizabeth, is to graduate from the Austin High School at about the same time. The second son, Horace Renssalaer, was born in Fairfax, Vermont, January 20, 1864. He is a graduate of the Austin School, also of the medical department of the University of Minnesota and is now practicing medicine in North Yakima, state of Washington, where he owns considerable orchard property. He married Amelia Webb, a native of Indiana and a graduate of Asbury Hospital, Minneapolis. They have two children, a girl named Charlotte Frances and a boy named Horace Paul. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Wells had one daughter named Susan Charlotte, born January 11, 1869. She married Erastus Hale, of St. Lawrence county, New York, and they are now living on a farm near Canton. They have two sons, the oldest named Charles and the youngest Roy. Elias H. had one brother older than himself, named William L., who is little more than a remembrance, as he died when quite young. The succeeding younger brother was named George Newton. He, except when attending school or teaching, lived with his parents until he be-

came of age, when he entered upon a mercantile career—a part of the time in Westford and a part of the time in Fairfax, Vt. Newton married Celia Roberts, daughter of Larkin Roberts, of Fairfax. They had but one child, a daughter named Ardelle. Not long after the close of the Secession war they moved to Clarksville, Mecklenburg county, Virginia, where he invested his funds in land and landed securities. Not very long after this he was elected treasurer of the county, when he moved to Boydton, the county seat. There he continued to live, retaining his official position until shortly before his death. He died April 9, 1892. Both he and his wife are buried in the Sanderson cemetery in Fairfax. The other member of the family was named after his deceased brother, William L. He grew up to manhood on the farm in a manner similar to Elias and Newton, excepting that before finishing school he responded to the call for volunteers to help preserve the Union. He enlisted in Company H, Second Regiment Vermont Volunteer Infantry. He was appointed one of the color guards for the regiment and some of the time carried the colors. He went with them to the front, participating in the first battle of Bull Run, also fighting with his regiment during McClellan peninsular campaign, remaining with his regiment until they were again on the Potomac guarding Washington. But the toil and exposure amid the swamps of the peninsula brought on a fever and he was ordered to the hospital. When partly recovered he returned to his regiment, but immediately suffered a relapse, which ended his career, October 22, 1862, aged twenty-three. His remains were returned to Fairfax and buried in the family lot in Carroll Hill cemetery, followed by a large concourse of real mourners. The parents of Elias H. were Horace Wells and Harriet Farnsworth Wells. They lived the usual laborious and uneventful life of farmers until the year 1861 or about then, when they sold their farm and moved to the village and bought a home and other nearby property. He died June 18, 1864, aged sixty-five years and six months. His death was caused by overwork in aiding the mechanics to repair his barn. He was at times a member of the board of managers for the town and school. Mrs. Horace Wells died at Fairfax, July 23, 1893, when past her eighty-sixth year. Horace Wells was a member of the Congregational church and his wife of the Methodist Episcopal church, to the aid of which she gave all her possessions. They not only taught their children the way they should go, but also what they should believe. As Elias matured and thought of such things, he found that he could not conscientiously accept the old creeds and theories and gradually acquired a more scientific faith, more in accord with nature and its orderly course as we are coming to know it;

rather than as humanity once imagined things were, with constant interference by some divine power, with things and events. He became better pleased to see old creeds and superstitions slaughtered and sacrificed than to see scientific facts and sensitive beings sacrificed. He is today happy in the belief that the people in general are not accepting either religious or political ideas quite as hypnotically as our ancestors did. However, he does not accept the theory of accidental aggregations of atoms in our anatomy nor in accidental things generally, but believes that all that is is from some source quite according to an orderly, progressive manhood. The grandfather of Elias was named Cyrus and lived and died on a farm adjoining that of his father. He married Mary Kingsbury, by whom he had children named Zenas, Horace, William, Jeremiah and Mary. After the death of his first wife he married a widow, Farnsworth, by whom he had children named James, Alonzo and Melissa (twins) and Dennison. There was also a Brazilla in the family. They also adopted a daughter, a Hannah Munsel. The aforesaid widow, Farnsworth, was by her first husband the mother of Elias's mother. The children of Widow Farnsworth by her first husband were John, Parker, Betsy and Harriet. Elias thinks that his grandfather Cyrus, accompanied by a brother, Jonathan, who also left a large family, came to Fairfax from Halifax, Vt., about 1805, and that their father was named Jonathan, but of his earlier ancestors he personally knows nothing. Those who have personally examined town and church records of colonial times in Connecticut and Massachusetts, notably Mrs. Annie Wells Hugo, wife of Hon. N. F. Hugo, of Duluth, are satisfied that the family are direct descendants of Ensign Hugh Wells, of Essex county, England, who was born about 1590, and who, accompanied by a brother, Richard, came to this country in ship *Globe* in 1635, landing in Massachusetts, then went to Hartford, Conn., but finally settled in Wethersfield. He was a brother of Governor Thomas Wells, of early colonial times. From these brothers, particularly Hugh, Mrs. Hugo traces the large Wells family to Hadley and other places in Massachusetts into Halifax and other places in Vermont. She traces one, a royalist, to Halifax, Nova Scotia, others to New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and other places and finds several quite creditable characters, who played prominent parts in those trying times, leaving us as an inheritance the freest, most democratic and representative nation on the earth, though still capable of being greatly improved. Starting back in England, Mrs. Hugo finds among the female ancestors the names of Goodwin, Crow, Meigs, Phillips, Drake, Ellis, White, Newton, Hubbal, Beardsley and other unknown ones. Mrs. Charlotte E. Soule Wells, wife of Elias

H. Wells, was born in North Fairfax, Franklin county, Vermont. Her father was Dr. Renssalaer Soule, who was born in Fairfield, Franklin county, Vermont, July 30, 1803. Dr. Renssalaer Soule's father was Salmon Soule and his mother's name was Sarah. His ancestors came from England in the Mayflower. Salmon Soule died June 16, 1858. Sarah, wife of Salmon Soule, died May 23, 1846. There was a large family of ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom Dr. R. Soule was the third son. Dr. R. Soule was educated at the Vermont University in Burlington, graduated from the medical department, practiced medicine in Canada and Fairfield, was married to Susan Richardson, of North Fairfax, Vt., December 23, 1833. Two children were born in Fairfield, Henry Chilo, who died in infancy, and Renssalaer Soule, Jr. Then they moved to North Fairfax, where five children were born, Renssalaer Soule, Jr., Sarah, Charlotte Susan Jane, Henry and Helen. R. Soule, Jr., was born March 27, 1836, married Cornelia Hawley January 4, 1860, and died in Lansing, Mower county, Minnesota, March 5, 1904. Sarah, the second living child, was married to George Robinson in North Fairfax and died in Lansing, Mower county, Minnesota, August 5, 1866. Henry and Helen died in North Fairfax, Vt., in 1864. Charlotte Soule Wells's mother was Susan Richardson, of North Fairfax, Franklin county, Vermont. Her father (Charlotte's own grandfather) was Moses Richardson, who was born December 2, 1776, and died June 5, 1825, aged forty-nine. Her mother was Sally Richardson, who was born October 9, 1783, and died November 10, 1830, aged forty-eight. There was a large family. Susan, one of the daughters, was adopted by her uncle John Richardson and Aunt Anne after the death of Susan's parents. John Richardson was born October 15, 1768, and died December 24, 1846, aged seventy-seven years. Anne Richardson, wife of John Richardson, was born January, 1764, died in 1830, aged sixty-six years. Susan Richardson, adopted daughter of John and Anne Richardson, was born June 25, 1812, died March 10, 1880, aged sixty-seven years. Dr. R. Soule, with his children, most of whom were married (Susan Jane being married in Lansing to William M. Howe), moved west to Lansing, Minn., in 1865, where he purchased a large tract of land. He died November 7, 1880, aged seventy-seven years. Dr. R. Soule and wife were members of the Episcopal church. Charlotte E., a member of the Baptist church.

Mrs. Charlotte E. (Soule) Wells received her education at Newhampton Institution, at South Fairfax, Vermont. The aunts and uncles of Mrs. Wells on her mother's side were: John, Harriet, Elvira, Susan, Caroline, George, and Robinson, all deceased. Her aunts and uncles on her father's side were: Sally, Chilo,



HENRY WEBER, SR.

Armida, Bradley, Salina, Ruth, Jane, Solon and Joseph. All are dead.

August C. Wollenburg, an esteemed citizen of Waltham township, has taken an active part in the affairs of his neighborhood. He has been supervisor of his township for six years, treasurer for eight years and trustee and treasurer of the German Lutheran church for many terms. In Germany, November 11, 1855, he first saw the light of day in the home of his parents, Daniel and Johanna (Wutehke) Wollenburg, and was by them brought to America in 1868. Upon reaching this country they settled in Lomira, Dodge county, Wisconsin, where Daniel is still living at the good old age of ninety-one years. August C. attended school in Dodge county and remained on the home farm until twenty-two years of age. At that age he married and came to Waltham township in a covered wagon, bringing his bride. Here they located on section 34 and nobly started housekeeping in a shack. Prosperity has crowned their efforts. The old shack has been replaced with a roomy house surrounded by airy and commodious barns, while the original farm of eighty acres has been increased to half a section. By his wife, who was Mary Wuertz, daughter of John N. and Catherina (Stahl) Wuertz, Mr. Wollenburg has five children: Augusta, August, Frederick, George and Marie. Augusta is the wife of William Steinbach and they have three sons, Elmer, Clement and Merton. August H. is married, lives in Waltham township, and has three children: Lorene, Elwin and Harold.

H. L. Welken, one of the supervisors of the town of Dexter, has lived on his present farm in section 8 for some sixteen years. He has a well-kept farm of 268 acres, with good substantial buildings, including a large barn, which he has just erected for his sheep. While diversified farming occupied his attention, he also gives much of his time to stock raising, and has a fine flock of registered Shropshires and a drove of Duroc hogs, in addition to the usual amount of cattle and horses. Mr. Welken was born in Granvin Hardanger, Norway, February 9, 1867, came to America in 1888, located in Brownsdale, this county, worked out for several years, and finally purchased his present farm. He is a member of the A. O. U. W. and is unmarried.

Henry Weber, Sr., was a prominent citizen of Grand Meadow for many years, and his memory will ever be revered by the people of that locality. His variety of experience gave him a breadth of opinion and he was a thorough believer in education, being himself a man of many scholarly attainments. He was born in Brusau, Austria, was given a good education, including the graded and high schools. At an early age he acquired the German, Bohemian and Italian languages and after-

wards the English language and was a deep reader of the work of the philosophers and thinkers in these languages. He made civil government quite a study, having himself lived under three systems, the old feudal system, the new constitutional monarchy, and later, in the United States, the republican form of government. In 1855, Mr. Weber came to the United States and settled in Racine county, Wisconsin, where he farmed. In the spring of 1861, he came to Grand Meadow township and bought his first quarter section of land direct from the government and here lived until his death in 1905. He was one of the pioneers of the county, whose plain sturdy manhood, self-reliance and untiring industry helped to subdue the raw unyielding soil into rich fertile fields and change the scene of a monotonous, unsheltering-looking prairie into an ideal farm home with beautiful surroundings. He married Julia Nagle, also a native of Austria, and to them were born the following named children: Julius, Polly, Frances, Robert, Henry and Emma. The three sons are the only ones now living of the family and they reside at Austin, Minnesota.

Henry Weber, Jr., the popular judge of probate of Mower county, is one of the leading men of the community, and being still a young man, his friends predict for him many more and still greater honors in the coming years. He was born in Grand Meadow township, May 14, 1861, and is the son of Henry and Julia Weber. He has always taken a keen interest in education and in the reading of books and the gaining of knowledge of a substantial nature. He studied law in the office of W. W. Ranney, of Austin, and after being admitted to the bar, he opened an office at Dexter and there enjoyed a good law practice until he took his present position on January 1, 1911. During his residence at Dexter he held many local offices, including those of president of the village council, member of the school board, and he still retains his position as president of the First State Bank of Dexter. He is a member of Dexter Lodge, No. 253, A. F. & A. M. The subject of this sketch married Hannah Rahilly, daughter of John and Ellen Rahilly.

H. L. Ziemer is one of the successful and estimable citizens of Waltham township, where he has a farm of 160 acres in section 5. His farm is well kept and his dwelling homelike and comfortable. His barns are also commodious and in an excellent state of repair. No further word need be said of his character than that he is a devout member of St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran church, and in the absence of the pastor he ably conducts and reads the church services. H. L. Ziemer was born in Jackson, Washington county, Wisconsin, September 11, 1860, son of Carl and Bertha (Koepke) Ziemer. He received his

schooling in Jackson county and came to Waltham with his parents in 1881. At the age of twenty-five he purchased eighty acres of land in section 5, Waltham township, and soon added another eighty, making 160 in all. Mr. Ziemer married Amelia, daughter of Ferdinand and Caroline (Paape) Steffen, and this union has resulted in nine children: William, Beata, Gustav, Samuel, Oscar, Laura, Herbert, Arnold and Hilda.

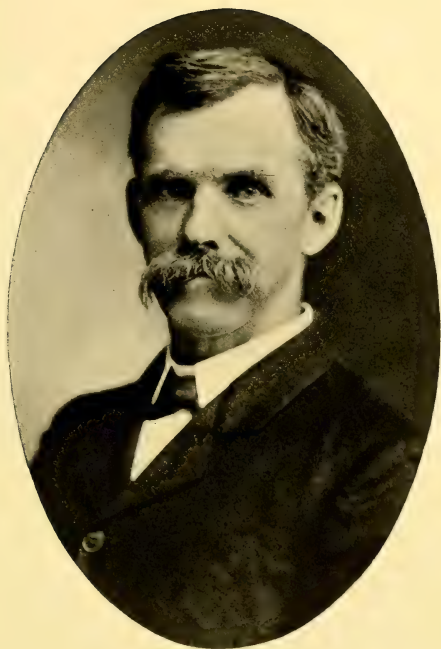
Carl H. F. Ziemer, for some thirty years an honored resident of Waltham, was an honest, honorable, hard-working man and left a goodly heritage of integrity to his children and descendants. His death, which took place in 1911, was sincerely mourned by the community at large as well as by his large family of five sons, four daughters, forty-one grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and two brothers and four sisters. Carl H. F. Ziemer was born September 29, 1833, at Nadelfitz, Pomerania, Germany, and was ten years of age when brought to America by his parents, who settled in Jackson, Wis., twenty miles from Milwaukee. He grew to manhood there and was married at that place November 2, 1855, to Bertha Koepke. In 1881 they came to Waltham, with their family, and settled on his farm, consisting then of 300 acres, which he had purchased in 1879, a mile north of the village of Waltham, where the subject of this sketch carried on farming until his death, March 8, 1911, at the age of seventy-seven years, five months and nine days. His children are as follows: George, Frank, Henry and John, of Waltham; Alfred, of Austin; Mrs. F. C. Garbish, Mrs. John Lewis and Mrs. Otto Kuchenbecker, of Waltham, and Mrs. Henry Pluckhan, of Milwaukee, Wis.

John F. Ziemer, a progressive and popular farmer of Waltham township, is a thorough believer in scientific methods in agricultural pursuits. He was born in Jackson, Washington county, Wisconsin, November 26, 1870, son of Carl and Bertha (Koepke) Ziemer. His early education was received in Jackson, Wis., and in Waltham, Minn., to which latter township he was brought by his parents in 1881. In 1897 he graduated from the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota. Mr. Ziemer's farm consists of 160 acres, all under cultivation. His home is large and comfortable, and his barns are commodious and sanitary. In addition to his own farm in section 3, he has recently purchased the old homestead of eighty acres. He is an active member of the agricultural societies of Minnesota and has been treasurer of the village of Waltham for fourteen years. The subject of this sketch married Cora A., daughter of Charles A. Schwartz, the present county commissioner of Mower county. This union has resulted in four children: Raymond R., Florence E., Harold F. and Lynn.

F. M. A. Ziemer, an industrious farmer of Waltham township, was born in Jackson, Washington county, Wisconsin, October 30, 1864, son of Carl and Bertha (Koepke) Ziemer. He received his education in Jackson, assisted his father on the farm, came with him to this county in 1881, and is now one of the substantial farmers of the township. He married Emma, daughter of William and Wilhelmina (Koch) Prodahl, who came from Germany and settled near Zumbrota in Goodhue county, living there many years. Mr. and Mrs. Ziemer have seven children: Carl, Bernhard, Adelia, Esther, Everette, Minnie and Marvin.

Alfred A. Ziemer, a hustling and energetic young business man of Austin, was born May 19, 1884, at Waltham, Minn. His early education was received in the public schools and German school of Waltham, subsequently entering the Southern Minnesota Normal College in 1901. He was later employed in a Waltham drug store for two years, leaving to take a course in the Martin Luther Seminary of Buffalo, N. Y. At the conclusion of this, he enrolled in the Highland Park College, of Des Moines, Iowa, returning to Waltham after his graduation and immediately launching into the breeding and raising of fancy fowls and bees. His growing business made new and larger quarters advisable, so in March, 1909, he removed to Austin and purchased an eight-acre tract, erecting suitable and up-to-date buildings. He handles a full stock of high-grade poultry and Italian bees and a complete assortment of poultry and bee supplies, catering to a large and increasing patronage. Mr. Ziemer is a life member of the American Poultry Association, a member of the National Beekeepers' Association, vice-president of the Minnesota Fanciers' Association of St. Paul, secretary of the Austin Fanciers' Poultry Association, and superintendent of poultry for the Mower County Agricultural Association fair. In politics he votes independent of party, considering the worth of the candidate only in his choice. The Lutheran church counts him a loyal member. Carl and Bertha (Koepke) Ziemer, parents of Alfred A., came to this county in 1884, the father engaging in farming in Waltham township, where he died in February, 1911. The mother's decease occurred in 1906. Mr. Ziemer was married on October 10, 1910, to Miss Mimi Carlitz.

Thomas Beattie is said to be the oldest builder in active work in Austin and over 200 buildings standing in Austin and vicinity at the present time testify to the skill and fidelity with which he has labored. He was born in Ireland, March 17, 1847, and came to America in 1868, locating at once in Madison, Wis., where he remained three years, afterward spending a similar period in Chicago, pursuing his trade as carpenter, contractor and builder. In May, 1874, he came to Austin and since that



THOMAS BEATTIE.

time has been employed here at his trade, having erected since his first coming here, an average of six buildings a year. In 1910 he erected twelve buildings during the year. Mr. Beattie married Elizabeth H. Teeter, and they have one child, Elizabeth.

Anson Boyer is one of the old settlers of Frankford township. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, February 18, 1829, came west in 1854 and in 1857 located in Frankford village, purchased fifteen acres of land and combined carpenter work with farming. He was married February 22, 1854, to Azuba Evans, of Jefferson county, New York, and they have one son, Hiram. Mr. Boyer has been an honored man in the community and has done public service of various kinds.

Lowry W. Prosser, agriculturist, horticulturist and stock breeder, of LeRoy township, was born in Marion county, Illinois, March 7, 1850, son of Henry and Nancy (Jones) Prosser, natives respectively of Schoharie county, New York, and the state of Kentucky. The parents, after living in Indiana and Illinois, came to Minnesota in 1856 and took up their residence in Spring Valley, Fillmore county. The father died in November, 1903, and the mother about 1885. Lowry received his early education in the Spring Valley graded schools and in the Chatfield High School, afterward taking a two years' course in the University of Minnesota. Subsequently he farmed summers and taught school winters in his home county for five years and then in 1878 came to LeRoy township, where he taught and farmed ten years. He purchased a farm of 160 acres and gradually increased his holdings until he owns 410 acres in sections 15 and 23. Originally this tract was scrub land, and Mr. Prosser cleaned up the hazel bushes and broke the land, bringing it to a high stage of cultivation. He also erected buildings and planted on the northwest of these a fine grove of evergreen trees, firs, balsams, pines and spruces, which act a windbreak and also beautify the farm. Mr. Prosser is a Republican in politics, has served on the school board for many terms and on the board of supervisors for five years. It is as a farmer, however, that he has made his greatest progress. Some years ago he became interested in horticulture and started planting apple trees as an experiment. He now has 1,000 trees and is developing a seedling apple, which he has named the "Prosser." This apple is the highest development in the line of Minnesota apple growing, and Mr. Prosser has won many prizes, including \$40 in prizes from the Minnesota Horticultural exhibit, and several awards from the Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society. In the agricultural line he makes a specialty of "White Dent" seed corn and in 1910 was awarded first prize at the exhibit of the Albert Lea Seed Corn Breeders' Association. He also

breeds pure blooded Shorthorn cattle, registered Shropshire sheep and Duroc Jersey hogs. The subject of this sketch was married December 24, 1874, to Marcia A. Spencer, daughter of W. B. and Elizabeth (McGee) Spencer, born April 16, 1849, and this union has been blessed with two children, William Glenn and Ruby E., the latter of whom was born June 30, 1882, and died three years later. Mrs. Marcia A. Spencer Prosser was born in Pennsylvania, April 16, 1849, daughter of W. B. and Elizabeth (McGee) Spencer, who came to LeRoy in 1856. Mrs. Prosser attended the first school established in the southeast part of the county. Mrs. Prosser graduated from the normal school at Winona, in 1867, and taught school for many years in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa, teaching several terms after her marriage. Lowry W. Prosser was elected secretary of the Southern Minnesota Horticultural Society in 1909, 1910 and 1911, respectively.

William Glenn Prosser was born November 13, 1880, son of Lowry W. and Marcia A. (Spencer) Prosser. He received his education in the graded schools and in the LeRoy High School, afterward taking a two years' course in plant and stock breeding in the Agricultural School of the University of Minnesota. After returning home from college he took up agricultural pursuits with his father.

Thron M. Lokke, a venerable resident of the village of Grand Meadow, was born near Honefos, in Norway, January 18, 1847, son of Mons Lokke, a carpenter by trade, as well as a farmer. Thron M. Lokke came to America with his parents in 1852, and with them located in York, Green county, Wisconsin, where he spent his early manhood on a farm. At the age of twenty-five years he went to Floyd county, Iowa, and rented a farm one year. Then he came to Frankford township, this county, and settled in section 32, where he continued to live until the fall of 1909, when he retired and took up his residence in the village, leaving the management of the farm to his son, Martin. Mr. Lokke married Carolina E., daughter of Iver Peterson, and this union has resulted in eleven children: Martin, Helen G. (deceased), Hannah J., Isaac G. (deceased), Sena G., Theodora E., Theodore (deceased), Gilbert (deceased), Gilbert, Josie M. and Clarence. Martin married Anna Hovda and has two children, Myrtle A. and Truman E. Hannah J. married Torn Odden and they have six children: Inga, Elsie, Helen, Josie, Seymour and Rollin. Mr. and Mrs. Odden live in Aldrich, Waden county, Minnesota.

Ole Finhart, Jr., an estimable farmer of Adams township, was born in Frankford township, this county, April 10, 1856, and is the son of Ole O. Finhart and Caroline, his wife, natives

of Norway, who settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, about 1848 and were married in Minnesota in the fifties. In the middle fifties they purchased 160 acres in section 7, Frankford township, and here Ole O. followed farming until his death in 1898, his widow still making her home on the old farm. Ole Finhart, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the county schools, and at the age of nineteen started to learn the tinner's trade with C. F. Greening in Grand Meadow. Then he worked out as a farm hand until 1877. That year he attended school at Grand Meadow and at the same time worked in the store of Ole Jorgen. Subsequently he took a course in the La Crosse Business College. The following year he was made deputy sheriff and jailor, in Mower county, by Sheriff H. B. Corey. This position he held over four years. During this period the famous case of the trial of John Riley for the shooting of Sherman Page came up, and for a time Riley was in Mr. Finhart's charge. After giving up this position he entered the employ of C. E. Greening in Grand Meadow and worked for him for years. In 1891 he began farming in section 11, Clayton township, where he purchased a quarter section, which he still owns. Here he followed general farming until December 18, 1901, when he married Mrs. T. S. Olson and came to Adams township to take charge of the Tollafson estate for his wife. Mr. Finhart has been an active Mason since 1880, when he joined Grand Meadow Lodge, No. 21, A. F. & A. M. He is a Republican in politics, and while in Clayton township was school clerk three years and town clerk a similar period. He has also served as secretary of the Grand Meadow Butter & Cheese Association and was a director of the Adams Co-Operative Creamery, in which he is still a stockholder.

Horace H. Hubbard has been a successful farmer in Austin township since the period immediately following the Civil war. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, February 14, 1832, son of H. S. and Margaret (Hanes) Hubbard, both descended from old and distinguished eastern families. Horace received his early education in Wayne county, Illinois, walking three miles to school. In 1854 he started out in life for himself as a farmer and in June, 1866, came to Mower county and purchased a quarter section of land in section 8, Austin township. Here he built a house and necessary outbuildings, broke and developed the land, and has since continued to carry on general farming with much success. In 1898 he purchased eighty acres adjoining his original purchase. Mr. Hubbard is a Republican in politics and a member of the Christian church. He was married, September 14, 1854, to Mary V. Hawk, of Ohio, and of the seven children who have blessed their happy union, five are living. They are:

Laura, now Mrs. Homer Wood; Homer, a hotelkeeper and merchant in Fairmont, N. D.; Minnie, now Mrs. George Hines; Eunice, now living in Alberta, Canada, and Samuel, now on the old homestead. Cassius and Jennie are dead. H. S. Hubbard was born in Olmstead county, New York, and married Margaret Hanes, a native of Green county, Pennsylvania. H. S. was a carding machine operator and for fourteen winters also taught school. He operated the first threshing machine in Columbiana county, Ohio. In 1843 he took his family to Wayne county, Illinois, and there engaged in farming until his death in 1855. His wife survived until 1873.

John Johnson, who farms on section 21, Marshall township, was born in Sweden, September 30, 1848, and was there reared to manhood. At the age of twenty-seven years he came to America and worked at various labor in Chicago three years. In 1876 he married Tilda Johnson, also a native of Sweden, and together they came to Minnesota in 1878. After several years here, they purchased their present farm. All of the 120 acres except the home site are under cultivation; the home is comfortable, the outbuildings in good condition, and the supply of farm equipment, implements and machinery is adequate. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and votes the Republican ticket. He is essentially a self-made man, having received no inheritance from his parents. He has not cared to seek public office, but at various times has done good work on the school board. Three children have blessed the Johnson home. Charles W. married Isabelle Bacagard and is a carpenter at Rose Creek. Frank and Carter are at home.

James W. Johnson, of Lyle, has been in charge of the county bridge construction for eight years, and in this capacity has well demonstrated his ability and fitness. He was born in Christiania, Norway, August 29, 1867, son of Carl and Helen (Olson) Johnson, natives of Norway. They came to America in 1880 and located in Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming until 1904, in which year they located in Dawson, Minn., and retired. Carl Johnson died December 24, 1909, after which his wife came to Lyle and died September 3, 1910. James W. came to America with his parents in 1880 at the age of thirteen. While still a youth he located in Algona, Iowa, and engaged as an apprentice to a wagon maker. In 1885 he went to Minneapolis for a short time, and then became a brakeman for the C., M. & St. P., a position he occupied eight years, after which for two years he was a traveling baggage master. Subsequently he worked at the cement business in Minneapolis and then in 1898 came to Lyle, where he is a worker in concrete, doing general con-

tracting and building and making a specialty of bridge work. He has been street commissioner in Lyle five years, is on the board of health, belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the M. W. A. and the I. O. R. M. He votes independently and attends the Congregational church. Mr. Johnson was married, October 6, 1898, to Mollie Volstad, and this union has resulted in one daughter, Iona Julla, born April 8, 1900.

Henry Jacobs, who opened the first regular clothing and tailoring establishment in Austin, was born in Saxony, Germany, March 23, 1830. He received his early education in the German schools and came to America in 1848, after learning the tailoring trade. Upon his arrival in New York, he went up the Hudson by boat to Albany, thence to Buffalo by rail, and thence to Cleveland, Ohio, by boat. From then until 1855 he was engaged in the tailoring business in various places in Ohio, and in that year located in Oshkosh, Wis., where he engaged, as before, in the clothing and tailoring business. In 1861 he came to Austin and opened a similar establishment, the first in the place. This he conducted until 1898, when he closed out his clothing business, although he still continues to do tailoring. Mr. Jacobs has been a deacon in the Austin Baptist church since 1877. He was first converted in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1849, and was baptized in Lake Winnebago, at Oshkosh, in 1855. He is the oldest living member of the local church. A Republican in politics, he first voted for John C. Fremont in 1856. He has been a member of the I. O. O. F. since 1876, was a charter member of the W. W. A. in 1877 and joined the Good Templars at the organization in 1863. The subject of this sketch was married, December 24, 1856, at Oshkosh, Wis., to Frances E. Lord, who died April 8, 1897, leaving four children, Eugene, Mamie, G. Edwin and Mabel.

W. F. Jordan, elevator man at Taopi, was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, December 24, 1865, son of William and Mary (Burns) Jordan, both natives of Ireland. W. F. passed his early manhood on the farm and received his early education in the district schools. At the death of his father, in 1892, W. F. and his brothers took charge of the home farm. In 1901, the subject of this sketch came to Mower county and farmed near Elkton three years. After this he traded his farm for an elevator in Elkton, which he operated for one year. Subsequently he came to Taopi, where he has since been located. He is a man of affairs, energetic, keen and alert, and has achieved success in life by his own efforts. He has a pleasant residence, which he himself erected, and is regarded as one of the active men of the village.

Charles H. Johnson, M. D., for six years mayor of Austin and the present county physician, was born in Canada, in the province of Ontario, January 16, 1860, son of Samuel and Amelia E. (McNish) Johnson. He received his early education in the public schools of his neighborhood and when properly prepared entered the medical department of McGill University, at Montreal, Canada, in 1879, graduating with honors in 1884, having received in the meantime the necessary hospital and dispensary practice. After graduating, he came direct to Austin, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in all its branches, having a large clientele in city and county and enjoying the respect and confidence of the community, both as a man and as a practitioner. He was elected to his present position as county physician in 1907 and has also been connected more or less with the state militia. Dr. Johnson is a high degree Mason and belongs to the M. W. A., the A. O. U. W., the K. of P., the F. O. E. and the Owls. He votes the Democratic ticket and attends the Episcopal church. Samuel Johnson and Amelia E. McNish, his wife, parents of Dr. Charles H. Johnson, of Austin, spent their lives in Canada, Samuel dying in 1863 and his wife in 1907.

Emil Larsen, a prosperous farmer of Lodi township, was born in Christiana, Norway, December 27, 1847, son of Hans Larsen, now deceased. Emil attended the schools of the old country and learned the wallpaper making trade. After attaining the years of manhood, he decided to come to America. A tedious sailing trip over the ocean occupied six weeks, after which Emil Larsen first set foot on American soil in Quebec. Here the immigration bureau gave him the name of H. C. Larsen, for purposes of record, but this name Mr. Larsen has never used. He came directly from Quebec to Dane county, Wisconsin, and learned the carpenter trade. From Wisconsin he came to Mower county, purchased land in section 34, Lodi township, and combined farming with work at his trade as carpenter. The first year he raised wheat, but he has since devoted his attention to diversified farming and dairying, having a herd of about thirty Shorthorn cattle. He also has some twenty-five brood sows of the Poland-China breed. His farm is in excellent condition, and in 1896 he built a pleasant new home with his own hands. He has also erected his own barns and other buildings. In 1870 the subject of this sketch married Annie Knutson, the ceremony taking place in Norway. This union has been blessed with eight children: Herman Martin, deceased; Carl Christian, at home; Emma Anita, wife of Henry Erie; Christian Louisa, wife of Mike Hermanson, a farmer in Iowa; Monson Gustave, a carpenter residing in Rochester; Carrie Olina, wife

of James Hauga, a merchant at Clermont, Iowa; Oscar, at home, and Gina Matilda, deceased. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Andrew P. Martin, one of the foremost citizens of Nevada township, has been chairman of the township board for many years, and before his elevation to his present office served several terms as a member of the town board of supervisors. He has also served in other positions of public trust and honor. Andrew P. Martin was born in Nevada township, this county, October 21, 1856, son of Peter and Anna (Anderson) Martin, the pioneers. He was reared on the home farm, attended the district schools and has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, now carrying on general farming on 160 acres of well-improved land. He votes the Republican ticket and is a trustee and prominent member of the Six Mile Grove Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch was married, March 14, 1880, to Julia Ener-son, and this union has resulted in five children: Alma, Thea, Gilbert, Philip and Malvin. Alma is the wife of Oliver Meyer, of Roberts county, North Dakota, and Thea is the wife of Alfred Austinson, who resides in Nevada township. Gilbert, Philip and Malvin live at home. Peter Martin, the pioneer, was a son of Martin Hanson, and the three, Peter Martin, Martin Hanson and Andreas Anderson, came to Nevada township in June, 1854, coming from Norway, via Dane county, Wisconsin, and Calmer, Iowa. Peter Martin lived one year with his father, after his arrival here, and then built a house on his claim in the south-west quarter of section 21. Peter Martin was born in Norway in 1832. He attended school until eighteen years of age and then worked on the farm. In 1853, in company with his parents, left his native land and came to America, landing at Quebec, after a voyage of ten weeks. The family first located in Dane county, where they remained eleven months, then started with ox teams for Mower county, and settled in the town of Nevada, as before stated. He was twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1853, was Anna Anderson, a native of Norway, born in 1826. She died in October, 1870, leaving four children, named Martin, Andrew, John and Maria. He was married in 1873, the second time, and by this marriage there were two children, Clara and Albert. In March, 1888, he went to Lincoln county, Washington, where he now resides. Martin Hanson was a native of Norway and came to this country in 1853 with his family, landing in Quebec. After living a time in Dane county, Wisconsin, he came to Mower county in June, 1854, and settled in the north half of the southeast quarter of section 28, where he erected a log cabin, which he covered with bark. He lived in this cabin a few years and then erected

a substantial log house, which he occupied until the time of his death in the spring of 1867.

T. G. Morstad, a prominent farmer of Nevada township, who farms on 160 acres of land in section 9, was born in Norway, December 30, 1849, son of Gilbert and Anna Morstad, of Norway, the former of whom is now living with T. G., and the latter died in July, 1909. T. G. Morstad, the subject of this sketch, came to this country in 1869, settling in the township where he still resides. He has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits. Mr. Morstad is a Republican in politics, but he has never sought public honors. He and his family attend the Lutheran church. Mr. Morstad was married at Six Mile Grove, Minn., to Agnes Helgeson, daughter of Swensen and Emma Helgeson, the ceremony being performed October 29, 1881. Many children blessed this union: Anna, Ida, Gustav, Clara, Alma, Ole, Melise and Elmer. Anna is the wife of Carl Iverson, of Brazil, N. D. One died in infancy.

George J. Malcombson, a prosperous farmer of LeRoy township, was born February 11, 1870, in the Shetland Islands, off the coast of Scotland. His parents were Malcom and Mary (Leslie) Malcombson, also natives of the Shetland Islands. The father died there in 1879 and the mother brought her family to Canada in 1885. After eleven months in Canada, they came to the United States and lived in Chester, Iowa. Then they came to Mower county, and the boys worked out until 1895, when George J. and his brother purchased eighty acres in LeRoy township. On this tract George J. remained until 1900, when he purchased eighty acres in section 26, LeRoy township, where he built his house and barns and a large silo. He is successfully engaged in general farming and breeds Shropshire sheep and Shorthorn cattle. The subject of this sketch was married August 29, 1900, to Eliza A. Schutz, daughter of R. A. Schutz, of LeRoy, born February 27, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Malcombson are the parents of two children. Russell R. was born January 20, 1904, and died May 30, 1906. A. DeLloyd was born May 30, 1907. Mr. Malcombson is a Republican, attends the Presbyterian church and belongs to the M. W. A. He has been road overseer two years and is now a director of school district sixty-three.

Nels Nelson, for many years a farmer in LeRoy township, was born in Norway, and came to the United States by way of Quebec, locating for a time in Dane county, Wisconsin. After reaching LeRoy he worked out for a time, and then purchased eighty acres in section 27, Lodi township, which he tilled and to which he added until he owned 160 acres. After purchasing

this land he also bought a small house, standing two miles to the eastward, and moved this onto his land. In this house the family has since resided, making additions and improvements from time to time. In 1909, Nels Nelson sold the farm to his sons, Julius and Martin. The children born to Nels and Julia Nelson are: Betsy, Nils, Lena, Julia, Carrie, Julius and Martin. Betsy is the wife of Iver Hinger and lives in South Dakota. Nils farms in South Dakota. Lena is the wife of Edward Lysne, a contractor at Brainard, Minn. Julia died at the age of thirteen. Carrie is at home. Nelson brothers, Julius and Martin Nelson, sons of Nels and Julia Nelson, are prosperous farmers in Lodi township. The two boys stayed at home and attended to the work of the farm, and have given all their efforts to developing it, and to helping their parents in their declining years. They carry on general farming successfully, have made many improvements, have replaced the old windmill with one modern in every respect and have just let the contract for a fine new home, to be built just west of the present residence. They take especial pride in their herd of thirty Shorthorns, which they raise for beef and dairy purposes.

Henry O'Marrow, marshal of Grand Meadow village, was born in Ireland, son of Thomas and Mary (Murphy) O'Marrow, who brought their family to America in 1861, settling in Utica, N. Y., where they remained five years. Then they located in Beaver Dam, Wis., and there Thomas O'Marrow worked seventeen years for Washington Brower, continuing to live in Beaver Dam, until his death in 1904. Henry, the subject of this sketch, was seventeen years of age when he started out in life for himself, and came to Rochester, Minn., remaining six years, after which he came to Grand Meadow. He was assistant foreman of the C., M. & St. P. for six years, then engaged in the grain business, afterward pursued other employment, and later assumed his present duties as custodian of the peace. He also has charge of the village pumping station. He married Kate McCloskey, and to this union five children were born: Thomas, Frank, Mary, Margaret and Jennie. Mary married Joseph Rathey and they have one son, named Henry for his grandfather.

Charles K. Olson, a substantial citizen of Nevada township, was born in Norway, June 7, 1852, son of Charles Olson and Mary O. Olson, both natives of Norway and both now deceased. Charles K. came to Quebec in 1870 on an old sailing vessel, the "Skein." The wind failed them and before the landing was made in Quebec, after eleven weeks on the water, the boat exhausted its store of food and drink. From Quebec Charles K. came to Adams village and worked out for a year, afterward going to Iowa for a year. Then he returned, attended school win-

ters and for a period of ten years spent his time laboring by the month on farms, in the woods and in various other capacities. By frugality he saved enough money to buy eighty acres in section 10, Nevada township, and with this start he prospered until he now owns 320 acres of good land. He raises corn, potatoes and timothy and makes a specialty of cattle, mostly Herefords, for beef and dairy purposes. Mr. Olson is a Republican in politics and has been justice of the peace four years, director of the school board of his district five years, and treasurer of the same district for eight years. He has been a stockholder in the Nevada Co-Operative Creamery for seventeen years and disposes of his cream to that institution. The subject of this sketch was married, January 1, 1877, to Sara Ostermuse, a native of Norway, who came to the United States in 1870. Six children have been born to them: Carl is at home; Andrena married Lars A. Larson and lives in Adams township; Mollie is now Mrs. Hans O. Sampson, of Nevada township; Annie, Christ and Julia are at home.

Albert Paape, a modern farmer of Waltham township, was born near Berlin, Germany, August 30, 1860, son of August and Mary (Tews) Paape. He came to America with his parents and lived with them in Wisconsin, his father, August, dying there. Albert started in life for himself by working out by the day near Winona, this state, for three years. Then he spent two years in Waltham. Subsequently he went to Nebraska, but in 1898 again came to Waltham township and purchased 160 acres in section 8, where he still resides. He erected the house where he now lives and has a large and well-tilled farm, well equipped with tools and machinery and having a suitable number of buildings for the housing of stock and crops. Mr. Paape married Bertha Wiesch, and they have twelve children.

Joseph Reinartz, a Mower county farmer now living in Lansing township, was born in Washington county, Wisconsin, August 31, 1865, son of Joseph Reinartz, who was born in Germany and came to America in 1849, settling in Washington county, Wisconsin, where he raised his family. Joseph, Sr., came to Mower county in 1879 and took up his abode at Rose Creek, where he engaged in farming and where he still lives, making his home with his son John and his daughter Anna. Joseph, Jr., the subject of this sketch, went to school in Wisconsin and at Rose Creek in Mower county. When he was fourteen years of age he started in life for himself by working out among the farmers of the county. In 1886 he rented a farm, which he conducted five years. Subsequently he rented another farm for two years and in 1893 came to Lansing and purchased his present place. His farm is near the village. Mr. Reinartz

has been on the township board six years and is now chairman of the board. He is also a member of the Foresters. By his wife, Anna Gertrude Shnornberg, daughter of Henry and Gertrude (Weise) Shnornberg, Mr. Reinart has eight children, as follows: Anna M., Josephine, Bernard, Lawrence, Albert H., Henry J., Leonard and Helen E.

George Sutton, one of the pioneers of Mower county, has lived here since 1857, and has taken an active interest in township and county affairs. He has done his part toward the development of this section of the country and has always been outspoken in behalf of the things that he has believed to be for the best interests of the community. He was born March 19, 1838, in Greens county, Ireland, son of Stephen and Mary (McBride) Sutton, the father a native of County Longford, Ireland, and the mother of County Donegal, Ireland. The subject of this sketch came to this country with his parents in 1849, remaining in New York state until 1857, when he came with them to Mower county, locating at Rose Creek, Windom township. After his father's death, in 1859, he entered the claim which his father had pre-empted, as heir-at-law, and acquired the proper title. Here he developed the land, erected buildings and followed general farming until 1873, when he moved his family into the village of Rose Creek, and engaged in grain buying, still continuing, however, to conduct his farm. He followed the grain buying business until 1898, when he retired from active participation in business. In 1896, he returned to the old farm, where he now lives with his son, Arthur, who conducts the homestead. Mr. Sutton is a Democrat in politics, a lifelong member of the Masons and a former member of the Grange. He has served as justice of the peace, is a member of the town board of Windom and has been a member of the school board for many years. He also held other local offices. The subject of this sketch was married in Windom township, January 7, 1866, to Alma E. Slocum, who died February 8, 1901, leaving two children: Alice, now Mrs. Uber E. Bryant, of Oakland, Cal., and Arthur R., who conducts the home farm. Stephen Sutton, father of George Sutton, was born in County Longford, north of Ireland, and there received his education, afterward becoming a civil engineer. He was employed as government surveyor in Ireland for fourteen years, traveling all over that country. In 1849, he came with his family to America, locating at Norwich, Chenango county, New York, where they remained until April, 1857, when they set out to seek a new home in Minnesota, coming directly to what is now Windom township, where he entered a claim in section 26 and remained until his death, in 1859. Here his good wife remained with her son until

her death, in 1864. Mr. Sutton was married, in County Donegal, to Mary A. McBride, a native of that county.

J. J. Scallon is one of the well-liked young men of Austin, and is in every way capable to fill the position he occupies. Mr. Scallon was born in Wisconsin, March 31, 1884, son of William S. and Julia Scallon, both of whom are now living in Wisconsin. J. J. Scallon received his education in the common schools of Wisconsin and later graduated from the business course in the Wisconsin Business College at La Crosse, Wis. After graduation, he kept books for the John Gund Brewing Company, of La Crosse, for a few months, and was then made manager of the branch of that company at Austin. In this position he has since remained. This was the first brewery agency to be established in Austin. Southern Minnesota and northern Iowa points are supplied from here and the constantly growing business now amounts to over \$40,000 a year.

Antone Swenson conducts the Swenson estate of 220 acres in Marshall township for his brothers and sisters and is one of the substantial citizens of the township. He was born in 1878, in Sweden, and was brought to Mower county by his father, Andrew Swenson, in the early eighties. He is well liked in the township, has been road overseer for several terms, votes the Republican ticket and attends the Swedish Lutheran church.

Andrew Swenson was born in Sweden, came to America in the early eighties, and located in section 29, Marshall township, where he became a successful farmer, dying in 1899. He had eight children: Charles is a teacher in St. Paul; Annie lives at home; Esther and Nathle are in Austin; Manda is teaching school in this county, Hattie and Cora are at home, and Antone manages the home place.

Charles A. Sleeper was born in Fairfax, Vt., August 12, 1848, son of A. L. and Elbertine (Church) Sleeper. He spent his early life in his father's store and is now engaged in the dry goods and notion business, which enterprise he started in 1905. He was married to Delia, daughter of L. C. and Amelia (Dunlap) Gillett, and to this union has been born one child, Edna. Mr. Sleeper is a member of the M. W. A. and attends the Baptist church.

Ozro A. Sleeper was born in Fairfax, Vt., August 31, 1850, son of A. L. and Elbertine (Church) Sleeper, and was brought to Mower county in 1864, his father having located on a farm near Brownsdale two years previous. After completing his school days, he entered his father's store and engaged with other members of the family in the general mercantile business until 1905, when he took over the business of manufacturing the Sleeper lightning flypaper, which was invented by his father

and by him manufactured for many years. Ozro A. Sleeper devotes his entire time to the manufacture and sale of this fly-paper, and his success has been marked, the last season's business being larger than that of any preceeding year. The subject of this sketch married Ella Hoy, daughter of John Hoy. He is a member of Lafayette Lodge, No. 116, A. F. & A. M., Brownsdale, and the St. Barnard Commandery, K. T., as well as of the M. B. A. and the United Commercial Travelers.

Knute Thompson, a respected farmer of Nevada township, was born in Norway, October 26, 1850, son of Thomas Torbenson and Turber Knustader, his wife, both of whom were born, spent their lives and died in Norway. Knute came to this country in 1872, making the trip in a sailing vessel from Norway to New York. He landed on American soil June 25, after an eight weeks' tiresome and dangerous trip. He lived three months in Wisconsin, and then came to Nevada township, this county, where he worked out by the month for a year. Then he rented land a year, and at the end of this period had saved enough to acquire eighty acres of good land in section 7, Nevada township. In 1882, he purchased eighty acres in section 4, Adams township, and has since continued to make his home here. He has erected a comfortable home and the necessary buildings for stock and crops and carries on diversified farming. He devotes his attention largely to grain and cattle raising, selling the milk from his herd to the Adams Co-operative creamery. Mr. Thompson is a Republican in politics, has been road overseer for twelve years and member of the school board nine years. He aligns himself with the progressives. The subject of this sketch was married November 8, 1872, to Arlia Aslexon, a native of Norway, and they have seven children: Trina, Alex, Thomas, Theodore, Hans, Henry and Clara. Trina is now the wife of Ole Erickson, of Northfield, Minn.; Alex is farming in Williams county, North Dakota, and is also interested in coal mining; Thomas is married and resides in Faribault, Minn.; Theodore is at home; Hans is married and has a homestead in Williams county, Minnesota; Henry has a homestead in Valley county, Montana; Clara is the wife of William Peterson, a builder in Minneapolis.

Hans A. Turtdal, a successful farmer of Nevada township, was born in Norway, August 24, 1857, and came to America in 1878. After landing in New York, he made his way directly to Nevada township, where he worked as a farm hand ten years and then rented land for six years. He purchased forty acres of land and started farming on his own account. His operations have been crowned with success and he now owns 180 acres in section 21. He has followed diversified farming and makes a specialty of raising hogs for the market and cows for beef and

dairy purposes. Mr. Turtdal is a Republican in politics, but has never aspired to public office. He was married February 12, 1891, to Annie Lee, a native of Wisconsin, born December 9, 1860. They have three children: Lena, aged eighteen, at home; Trina, at school in Albert Lea, and Alfred, who lives at home and attends the public schools. The family worships at the Lutheran church.

Nicholas Ulwelling, now deceased, was a solid and respected citizen of Lansing for many years, having taken up his residence in the township in 1892 and purchased the old Yates farm. He was born in Germany and came to America with his parents in 1851. They emigrated to Washington county, Wisconsin, and in 1870 came to Mower county and located in the township of Nevada. In 1892, as before related, Mr. Ulwelling came to Lansing. His farm is now one of the richest in the county, consisting of 440 well-tilled acres, with suitable and modern buildings and machinery. After a life of successful toil, Mr. Ulwelling passed away January 19, 1910. Mrs. Ulwelling now has charge of the farm, assisted by her children, and is a capable business woman. Before her marriage she was Margaret Uschald, a native of Wisconsin, but of German descent. The children number nine, as follows: Frank, Joseph, Margaret, Nicholas J., John, Anna, Henry, George and Trasse. Margaret is now Mrs. Gerhart, of Windom township, and Anna is Mrs. Balwers.

Walter S. Willmarth, now deceased, was a respected citizen of LeRoy township and left a heritage of honor to his descendants. He was born in Burk, N. Y., February 12, 1857, son of Elisha and Anna (Blanchard) Willmarth. At Burk, Walter attended school and there lived until fourteen years of age, when he went to New York City with his aunt and completed his studies in the Packard Business College. After this he learned the harness-making trade and followed this vocation in New York City until 1885, when he came west and located at Elkton, S. D., where he engaged in the general mercantile business for a period of seven years. Then he sold out and came to Minnesota, locating in LeRoy township, where he purchased 160 acres of land in section 33. On this tract he conducted general farming until his death, September 6, 1908. Since his death his wife has taken charge of the farm and, being a woman of energy and ability, she is meeting with much success in her endeavors. The subject of this sketch was married, September 23, 1885, at Flandreau, S. D., to Susie Cardiff, born in Princeton, Wis., September 30, 1865, daughter of John and Mary Cardiff. This union has been blessed with three children: Roy G., of LeRoy; Rhoda A., now Mrs. Willis J. Sanders, and Reginald A., who lives at home. The family faith is that of the Baptist church.

Peter N. Weinert, a successful and prosperous general merchant of Rose Creek, was born in Cedar Creek, Washington county, Wis., son of Anton and Mary (Peil) Weinert, the former of whom was born in Berlin and came to America in 1846, and the latter of whom was a native of one of the French possessions. Peter N. grew to manhood in his native county and for six years taught school in Richfield, Wis., to which place his parents had previously moved. He became deeply interested in the Cleveland campaign and ran for register of deeds in Washington county, being defeated by but one vote. After giving up school teaching he went to college for a time, and then with Andrew Shottler bought out the store of John Cronan in Rose Creek. Two years later they sold out to E. C. Keefe. Mr. Weinert then purchased a farm four miles southeast of Austin, which he operated seven or eight years, after which he rented his place and returned to Rose Creek. In 1906 he erected a fine brick store building and entered into partnership with Henry L. Jensen in the general mercantile business. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Foresters and of the German society of the Roman Catholic church. He married Abbie Shottler and they have four children: Mary, Anthony, Winifred and Amy.

Abe F. Watkins, retired farmer, esteemed as a loyal friend and good neighbor, was born in Wales, December 21, 1846, son of John and Mary (Turner) Watkins. He came to America with his parents in 1850, and to Austin township in 1856, receiving his education in the district schools, and remaining at home until twenty-one years of age, when he filed on 240 acres of railroad land in Austin township, section 31, town 102, range 18. He broke the land, made general improvements and carried on general farming, making a specialty of breeding hogs and horses. In 1898 he rented his farm and came to Austin for the purpose of educating his daughters. At that time he purchased his present home on Park avenue. Mr. Watkins is a Republican. He served on the town board of Austin nine years and was school treasurer in his district fifteen years. The subject of this sketch was married, April 11, 1870, to Phoebe Carter, who died October 9, 1905, leaving five children: Franklin A. is the assistant manager of the Booth packing house in Minneapolis; Jennie is the wife of George Goslee, owner and proprietor of a gas plant in Chicago; Elda, who became Mrs. Durant, died at the age of twenty-three; Laura married James Connor and lives in Billings county, North Dakota; Anna P., now wife of Robert Carter, a Minneapolis electrician, graduated from the Austin high school and the Winona normal school, taught school four years and was head teacher at Anoka two years; Marjorie, now Mrs. George Srinson, whose husband conducts tansorial parlors at

Sargeant, graduated from the Austin high school and the Southern Minnesota normal school, of Austin, and was for several years head bookkeeper for the Hub department store in Austin. Mr. Watkins was married the second time, October 8, 1910, to Mrs. E. H. Ingham. The family faith is that of the Baptist church. John and Mary (Turner) Watkins were natives of Wales, the latter being a sister of Robert Turner, a member of Parliament. They came to America in 1850, lived in Wisconsin a time, and in 1856 came to Mower county and settled in Cedar City in what is now Austin township. They took a homestead of 160 acres, made the usual improvements and followed farming, the wife dying in 1858, two years after coming here, and the father in 1893, after a life filled with honest toil and successful endeavor.

Henry Beneke is one of the industrious farmers of Waltham township. His farms, located in sections 16, 17 and 20, are all under cultivation, his home and grounds are well kept, and his outbuildings commodious and in an excellent state of repair. He was born in Olmsted county, this state, June 5, 1857, son of Martin and Sophia Beneke. The father, Martin, came from Germany in the late '30s and located in Wisconsin, where he remained for a time. Then he located in Olmsted county, seven miles from Rochester, on the old stage road. Here he tilled the soil and lived in contentment and peace until his death in 1897. Martin Beneke often related, as the state became thickly settled, incidents of the early days when Rochester consisted of one tavern and one store, both built of logs. Henry spent his early days on a farm in Olmsted and at the age of seventeen years was given charge of the farm his father owned in section 20, Waltham township. In 1882 he moved on to this farm, and after his marriage purchased it from his father. A few years later he purchased his present farm in section, 16 to which he moved and where he now resides. Mr. Beneke was married in early manhood to Louisa Meyer, daughter of John Meyer, and their children are Louis, Sarah, Lydia and Edna. Louis lives in Minneapolis. Sarah married George Condo and they have one daughter, Martha. Mrs. Louisa Beneke died in 1892, and Mr. Beneke married for his second wife Emma Schwebke.

A. R. Browning, one of the foremost residents of Dexter township, was born in Allegany county, New York, February 5, 1868, son of Elisha L. and Betsy A. (Bull) Browning, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Vermont. They came west to Wisconsin about 1857, then went to Allegany county, New York, and in 1876 again started for the west, bringing their family, including A. R., who at that time was but eight years old. They settled on section 18, Dexter township, built a tem-

porary shack, and endured the hardships of pioneer life. Soon they prospered and the fruit of their hard work was seen in a fine frame house, excellent barns and well-tilled acres. A. R. Browning, as before stated, came to Dexter township with his parents. His education was received in the schools of Allegany county, New York, and in the schols of Dexter and Brownsdale, this county. He was reared on the home place and has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. His model farm now comprises 400 acres, with suitable buildings and machinery and some sleek-looking live stock. Mr. Browning is a member of the A. F. & A. M. at Brownsdale and the M. W. A. at Dexter. He married Huldah H., daughter of John and Polina (Blanchard) Reiser, the former of whom died in 1904 and the latter in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Browning have been brightened and gladdened by the arrival in their home of two fine boys, Wesley C., now aged nine, and Clifford H., aged six. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Herman Boelk, an honest and law-abiding citizen of Waltham township, was born in Germany, September 26, 1857, son of John and Wilhelmina Boelk, who brought him to America in 1872, locating in Waltham township, after a two months' stop by the way. For a time they rented the Matter house, and then moved into a house which they had erected on section 18. The parents took up farm work with energy and continued the remainder of their lives, the father passing away in 1892 and the mother in 1902. Herman was reared in Waltham township, attended school, assisted his father on the home farm, and later came into possession of it. He has made many improvements on the place, and in 1902 rebuilt the home. Being of a religious nature, Mr. Boelk has allied himself with the Evangelical Lutheran denomination. Formerly he was a trustee of the Evangelical Trinity Lutheran church for five years, and for six years he has been a trustee of the St. Michael's German Lutheran Evangelical church, to which latter church he now belongs. The subject of this sketch married Bertha Wagner, a native of Germany, and they have eight children: Albert, Bernhart, Olga, Leona, Rosa, Louis, Herbert and Irene.

O. C. Bratrud, who gave the land upon which the Lutheran church is located in Bennington township, was born in Norway, and came to America when fourteen years of age, being seven weeks on the water. Elsie Torgrimson, who afterward became his wife, crossed the water to America some years later. After locating in Fillmore county in 1854, Mr. Bratrud acquired 145 acres of land and carried on general farming until 1890, when he removed to Spring Valley for the purpose of better educating his children and to look after his real estate holdings, which

consisted of a tract in Fillmore county and 380 acres in Bennington township, this county. He died February 25, 1910, and his widow survives him, making her home in St. Paul. They were the parents of seven children: Theodore graduated from the University of Minnesota and is now a practicing attorney in Warren, Minn.; Albert is a farmer in Bennington township; E. O. is cashier of the State Bank at Roswell, S. D.; Clara has just completed her studies in art at the University of Minnesota, and L. I., Arthur and Edward are still students in that institution.

Albert Bratrud, a prosperous farmer of Bennington township, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, April 27, 1876, son of O. C. and Elsie (Torgrimson) Bratrud. He received his early education in the district and graded schools of his native county, took a two years' course in the Spring Valley high school, and graduated from the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota in 1898. Then he came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres of land from his father in section 22, Bennington township. On this place he has erected his home and buildings and follows general diversified farming, as well as stock and grain raising. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative creamery and elevator at Ostrander, Minn., and also has other business holdings. A Republican in politics, he has done excellent work on the school board. Mr. Bratrud was married, March 21, 1900, to Georgia Rendahl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Rendahl, of LeRoy township. In the family there are five children: Emil, Esther, Ruth, Olive and Milton, all at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

C. Arthur Carlson, machinist and automobile agent, was born in Austin, in which city he still resides, March 24, 1878, son of Carl A. and Matilda (Olsen) Carlson. He received his education in the public and high schools of Austin, and then learned the machinists' trade, which he worked at until 1904, when he started in business for himself, conducting a machine shop and doing general repair work, as well as repairing and selling automobiles. He is agent for the Rambler and E-M-F machines, and has done much to make those makes popular in this locality. Mr. Carlson is a member of the Austin and Mower County Automobile Club, belongs to the Masonic order and to the M. W. A., attends the United Lutheran church, and votes the Republican ticket. He was married, January 16, 1901, at Austin to Anna Anderson, and this union resulted in three children: Arthur Willard, George E. and Helen C. The family residence is at the corner of College and South St. Paul streets.

William Cutter, Austin's modern tailor, was born in St. Peter, Minn., January 7, 1873, son of F. W. and Josephine Cut-

ter. After his early schooling he clerked in a clothing store until twenty years of age, when he went to New York and underwent several years' training in the tailoring business, receiving a first-class diploma from Mitchell & Co., one of the finest establishments in New York City, known far and wide for excellent workmanship. After completing his training in New York City, Mr. Cutter came to Austin in February, 1896, and entered the employ of the Modern Tailoring Company. A year later he started business on his own account, since which date he has enjoyed that full measure of prosperity that his excellent work so richly deserves. Mr. Cutter's political affiliation is with the Socialist party and it is interesting to relate that he was placed on the ticket for alderman of Austin two years ago and with no effort on his part came within one vote of being elected. Mr. Cutter belongs to the Masonic order, and also to the M. W. A., the K. of P., the E. F. V., the B. P. O. E. and the F. O. E., being well liked in each. Mr. Cutter married Maude A. Patterson, daughter of William W. Patterson, of Austin, and they have two children: Rex C. and Brooks Dare.

F. W. Cutter was born in New Haven, Conn., and married Josephine Dare, a native of New York state. In early life, F. W. followed the trade of harness maker in New Haven, and when he reached the age of twenty-one he came to Minnesota and traveled on the road fifteen years. He and his wife had three children.

Joseph V. Cafourek, one of the prosperous farmers of Lyle township, is a fine example of those whose thrift and honesty, brought from the old country, has raised them to a position of trust and honor in the community. He has raised a large family and given to each child a good education. Mr. Cafourek was born in Bohemia, October 14, 1859, son of Frank and Anna (Mudra) Cafourek, natives of Bohemia, who came to America in 1877, locating in London township, Freeborn county, this state, where they purchased land and engaged in farming. The father died in 1899, and the mother still remains on the old home. Joseph V. received his early education in Bohemia, coming to America in 1876, and locating near Cleveland, Ohio, for a period of three months. After this he came to Mower county and worked out for one summer. He then joined his parents, who in the meantime had located in Freeborn county, and worked for his father for a period of six years. In 1890, he purchased his present farm of 320 acres, in sections 19 and 20, Lyle township, where he erected his home and other buildings, his residence being in section 19. He now carries on general farming along the latest approved lines, and is erecting a new home in section 20. Mr. Cafourek is a Republican and attends the Catholic

church. He belongs to the Bohemian Benevolent Society and is serving his twelfth year as treasurer of his school district. The subject of this sketch was married June 16, 1883, to Mary Kuthan, a native of Bohemia also. To this union have been born eight children: Anna is now Mrs. T. S. Johnson, of London township, Freeborn county; Mamie is now Mrs. Leo Carter, of Oakland, Freeborn county; Jerome is home on the farm; Lillie is home on the farm; Elsie is a teacher; Josephine is attending the Austin high school; Frank and Ernest are at home.

Frederick M. Conklin, cashier of the First State Bank of Dexter, was born in Deer Creek, Otter Tail county, Minn., September 13, 1884, son of Robert C. and Minnie (Pulver) Conklin. He received his early education at Chester, in Howard county, Iowa, and then worked in a store six years. Subsequently he entered the German Savings Bank at Chester and worked three years. He was the moving factor, in 1907, in organizing the bank of which he is now cashier. This institution, although young, is conducted along sound financial lines and is already demonstrating its worth and importance in the community. Mr. Conklin has allied himself with the Dexter Lodge, 263, A. F. & A. M., and before coming here joined the M. W. A. at Chester, Iowa. He married Eliza Nichols, daughter of H. B. and Emma (Pillsbury) Nichols, the former of whom is a prominent grain dealer.

John Cotter, retired farmer, now living in Austin, was born in Ireland, January 14, 1843, son of John and Johanna (Meade) Cotter, and came to this country in 1852, accompanied by his mother and two sisters. The trip was made on a sailing vessel, and all who took that particular voyage remember the long eleven months spent on the way. The Cotter party landed at Boston and from there went to Manchester, N. H., where they remained six years. During that time the subject of this sketch worked in the woolen mills. Afterward the family came west, locating in Adams, Wis., where John Cotter spent his time in farming. In 1865 he came to Freeborn county, and from then until 1908 carried on farming operations, acquiring three fine farms in Oakland township. He now lives in retirement in Austin. John Cotter married Katherine Keneven, daughter of Cornelius and Katherine (Collins) Keneven, and to this union ten children have been born: Arthur (deceased), John, Albert, Frank A., Leo J., Theresa, Maurice C., Esther and Roy J.

William M. Catherwood, one of the pioneers of southern Minnesota, came west in 1857, and located in the village of Sumner, in Freeborn county. He took up a claim and farmed for many years, coming to Austin in 1880. He died in 1890. Mr. Catherwood was a man of more than usual intelligence and was a



F. M. CONKLIN.

mathematician of prominence, being considered an authority in several of the more advanced branches of this science. He was also a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the Second Minnesota Cavalry. William M. Catherwood married Elizabeth Lowry, and to this union were born two sons, Thomas L. and Samuel D. Mrs. Catherwood, nee Elizabeth Lowry, was born near Indianapolis, Ind., daughter of Rev. Samuel G. Lowry, D. D., and Marguerite J. Hannah, his wife. Dr. Lowry spent the years of his active ministry in Indiana, but in his declining years lived in Freeborn county, this state. He settled in Indiana in 1825, and there raised a family of eleven children, four by his first wife and seven by his second. The latter mentioned are Elmuir, Elizabeth, Felicia, Alfred, Esther (deceased), Annie and Leander. Dr. Thomas Catherwood, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Catherwood, married Jennie De Wolf, and they have three children: Baird, Dorothy and Virginia. Samuel D. Catherwood, second son of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Catherwood, married Gertrude Sherwood, and they have three children: Josephine, Catherine and Roger. The revolutionary ancestor of the Lowry family was Rev. Samuel Doak, the first president of Washington College, Tennessee.

Charles M. Colby, a substantial farmer of Waltham township, is the scion of a distinguished family, being a descendant of Anthony Colby, who came to America in 1628-29 with Sir Robert Winthrop, and settled in Massachusetts. Charles M. was born in Waltham township, September 24, 1873, son of Amos and Mary E. (Stephens) Colby, both of whom came from Bow, N. H., settled in Wisconsin in 1856, in Red Rock township, this county, in 1857 and in the northwest quarter of section 35, Waltham, a few years later, remaining until his death, May 13, 1907. Charles M. attended the district school and also studied one season in the Owatonna schools. His early manhood was spent on the farm and he now has charge of the place. His quarter section is under good cultivation and Mr. Colby has been most successful in his endeavors. The subject of this sketch married Clara Belle Nichols, daughter of Charles E. and Clara (Hill) Nichols, descended from a pioneer Maine family. Mr. and Mrs. Colby are the happy parents of twin boys, born August 7, 1908.

Lewis G. Church, one of the successful farmers of Waltham township, is a native of this county, having been born in the township, where he still resides, September 14, 1868, son of George and Susan Church. George came from Ulster county, New York, when a child and lived there until 1866, when the family came to Waltham township. Lewis G. was reared on his father's farm and received his education in district 61. When

a young man he purchased the home farm and his father moved in to the village of Waltham, where he still resides. The farm now consists of 120 acres and on this Lewis Church carries on general farming and raises the usual crops. He is well liked among his fellow citizens and is a popular member of the M. W. A.

T. C. F. Ehmke, a modern farmer of Waltham, came to the township in 1877 and settled on section 9, which is now within the corporation limits of the village. He carries on general farming on the home place of 162 acres and also has a tract of eighty acres in the township. He is a hard-working man and well thought of in the community. T. C. F. Ehmke was born near the city of Woline, in Germany, January 17, 1844, son of Christian and Johanna (Strage) Ehmke. Christian Ehmke brought his family to America in 1845, made a short stay in Milwaukee, and then went to Jackson, Washington county, Wisconsin, where he took up farming on an eighty-acre tract. There he lived until his death at the age of eighty-two, his wife passing away at the age of eighty. T. C. F. was reared on the farm in Wisconsin, and as above related, came to Mower county as a young man. His first wife was Augusta Rahm. Of the two children by this marriage, one, Julius, is living, making his home in Nebraska. His children are Marie, John, Ella (deceased) and Minnie. For his second wife, Mr. Ehmke married Dorothy Amspach and they are the parents of the following children: Theodore W., who lives in the village of Waltham; Johanna, Louis J. F., Margaret, Carl F. A., and John A. H. The family worship at the St. Michael German Lutheran church.

Charles Faber is one of the industrious farmers of Waltham township, and has done his share toward its development. His record, indeed, is a most honorable one and includes service on the board of supervisors eighteen years and on the school board fifteen years. At the present time he is treasurer of the Waltham Co-operative Creamery, a position he has filled ten years. He has also served in a similar capacity for a similar period in his church. Charles Faber was born near the Rhine, at Pferdsfeld, R. B. Coblenz, Germany, January 26, 1863. His parents, Gottlieb and Elizabeth (Kuntz) Faber, brought him to America in 1868, and they lived in Rochester, Minn., two years. Then they came to Waltham township, and located in section 20, where they remained the rest of their days, the father passing away in 1893 and the mother April 20, 1910. Charles Faber attended school in Olmsted county and in Waltham township. When he was twenty-three years of age, July 13, 1886, he married Martha, daughter of Henry Baumgartner, who was born in Kirchhayn, Washington county, Wisconsin. This union has been blessed with



HENRY GRIMM AND FAMILY.

six children: Eda, Clara, Carl, Louis, Lona and Magdalena. Eda is the wife of Herman Frohriech. When the family first came to Waltham township they built a house and broke a few acres of land. The Faber home is now a comfortable one and is surrounded by suitable buildings. The farm consists of 160 acres of well-tilled land, upon which Mr. Faber conducts general farming.

John Gjernes, one of the leading citizens of Sargeant township, was born in Norway, September 18, 1849, son of Torges Gjernes, with whom he came to America in 1868. After a year in Kasson, Dodge county, and six years in Iowa, the family came to Mower county, and located in section 11, Sargeant township. A few years later the parents moved to Crow Wing county, this state, where the father died. John Gjernes came from Dodge county to Sargeant in 1874, and settled in section 2. His original home was in an old pioneer log cabin, but this in 1897 he replaced with a fine modern dwelling. He owns a quarter section of land and has the usual complement of machinery and tools. The subject of this sketch has taken an active part in politics. He was sergeant-at-arms in the Minnesota state senate for four years, and in 1910 was the nominee for representative against Ralph Crane, the successful candidate. He has also been supervisor of the township, and for eighteen years treasurer of the school board. Mr. Gjernes married Gertrude K. Olson, a native of Norway, who came to America with her parents in 1862, settling first in Olmsted county and then in Dodge county. Mr. and Mrs. Gjernes are the parents of eight children: Jacob; Agnes, wife of Ole Rognaldson; Theodore; Clara, wife of John Jacobson; Mary, wife of August Wagner; Ida, wife of Myron Johnson; Louisa, wife of Frank Bridwell, and Bina, who lives at home.

Henry Grimm, an honored figure in the life of Sargeant, was born in Branerдам township, Wisconsin, July 7, 1847, son of John F. and Barbara (Graessle) Grimm, both natives of Germany. John F. Grimm came to America about 1831, lived in Pennsylvania for a time, went to Ohio and was there married, after which he went to Illinois and stayed a year, later taking up his residence in Wisconsin. In 1862 he came to Minnesota with his family of eleven children and settled in Rochester. Henry was taken to Rochester by his father when fifteen years of age, and there spent his young manhood. In 1885 he came to Sargeant township, purchased a farm in section 16, and followed farming some twenty-five years. In 1900 he moved to the village, where he now lives, having practically retired from active life. He occupied many township offices during his residence on the farm and was a prominent man in many ways. He married Caroline Martin and they have four children. Frank mar-

ried Louisa Paterson and has a daughter Leora. Leroy A. married Ulma Peterson. The other two are Ralph M. and Hilda C.

Edmond Hill is one of the scientific and modern farmers of Mower county, and his farm of 480 acres in section 33, Red Rock, is one of the model places of the township. He was born in Red Rock township, September 24, 1872, son of Orrin J. and Frances (Ransom) Hill, pioneers. He received his schooling in the "Pioneer" schoolhouse in his native township, and his early manhood was spent on his father's farm, where he still continues to reside. He married Emma Bassett, daughter of Charles D. and Nellie A. (Smith) Bassett. Mrs. Hill was born in Udolpho township, Mower county, but her parents moved to Dundas, in Rice county, this state, when she was one year old. Charles D. Bassett came from Carroll county, New Hampshire, and he and his wife still reside in Dundas. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have four bright children: Lorna, aged 12; Ruth, aged 10; Esther, aged 7, and Robert, aged 4.

Henry Theo Hagen is one of the estimable citizens of Dexter township. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, June 2, 1871, son of D. and Elizabeth Hagen. D. Hagen was born in Germany, came to America about 1869, settled in Dane county, and there remained one year. After coming to Minnesota he lived in Owatonna three years, and then in Grand Meadow township, this county, eight or nine years. Later he took up his residence in Marshall township, where he and his wife now reside. Henry Theo Hagen came to Minnesota with his parents and with them lived in Owatonna, Grand Meadow and Marshall townships. After his marriage to Sophia Spreckels, he purchased land in section 35, Dexter township, and there he now continues to live. He has 160 acres, which he has occupied and developed for sixteen years, and has a pleasant home, good out-buildings and excellent tools and machinery. He is chairman of the board of supervisors, has been on the town board ten years and on the school board twelve years. He has also been treasurer of the German Lutheran church for nine years. In his family are four bright children: Oliver D., fourteen; Theodore H., ten; Oscar C., nine, and Harold D. M., six. Mrs. Sophia (Spreckels) Hagen, is the daughter of Dedrich and Anna (Tiedemann) Spreckels, and was born in Goodhue county, this state. When but a child, she came with her parents to this county and located with them in Red Rock township. After working hard for many years, Dedrich Spreckels determined to take a trip to Germany. On his return there was a collision at sea and his vessel sank with all on board.

Gustav L. Hanson, a substantial resident of Clayton township, is a native of this county, born in Frankford township,

June 27, 1874, son of Lewis and Sarah Hanson, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1856, and settled in Frankford township, where they purchased land and where they still live. Gustav L. was educated in the county schools of Mower county, and when twenty-one years of age started in life for himself by renting land for several years in his native township. In 1896, he purchased land in section 7, Clayton township, and on this tract he conducts general farming, having about thirty-five head of dairy cattle, twenty-five Poland-China hogs and eight horses, as well as the usual equipment of tools and machinery. He is a Republican in politics, has been road overseer ten years and director of school district 127 for seven years. The subject of this sketch was married, November 6, 1899, to Lena Anderson, daughter of Tom Anderson, of this county, and they have five children: Leonard, Alfred, Ernest, Clifford and Glenn. The three oldest are at school.

Glenn W. Vail, a skilled dentist of Lyle, was born in Hiawatha, Kans., April 18, 1877, son of Benjamin H. and Emily O. (Hutchinson) Vail, natives of New York, who came to Henry county, Illinois, in the early days, and after living there and in La Salle county for a time, went to Hiawatha, Kans., where they remained until 1882. Up to this time, Benjamin H. had been engaged as a wagon maker. Upon moving to Auburn, Neb., in 1882, he engaged in the retailing of windmills, pumps and other farm machinery. Eight years afterward, in 1890, he went to Omaha, Neb., where he still lives. His wife, Emily O., died at Hiawatha, Kans., in January, 1881. Glenn W. received his education in the public and high schools, and in 1900 entered the State University of Iowa, at Iowa City, graduating from the dental department in 1905. For one year he practiced at Panora, Iowa, and then came to LeRoy, where he has since been located, maintaining an office well equipped with the most modern appliances. Dr. Vail belongs to the Minnesota State Dental Association and to the Southern Minnesota Dental Association. He is an active worker in the Commercial Club, a popular member of the Knights of Pythias and an attendant of the Congregational church. He was married, June 10, 1905, at Iowa City, to Lena R. Wood, of Mankato, Minn., who died November 1, 1906, leaving a son, Dana F., born October 31, 1906. January 26, 1910, he was married at Winona to Dena L. Hedemark, daughter of B. D. Hedemark, a former Lyle shoe merchant, who died in June, 1909, Mrs. Hedemark still making her home in Lyle.

Carl E. Johnson, a modern farmer of Bennington township, has performed work which will have its effect for countless generations to come. He has set out a thousand apple trees which

are beginning to bear fruit; he is about to plant 200 Dutchess apple trees, and is well under way with the planting of 4,000 hardy trees, which will beautify the landscape for decades, if not for a century, to come. He was born in Sweden, April 12, 1871, son of Nick Larson and Christina L. Peterson, his wife, both of whom died in Sweden. Carl received a good education in Sweden, and was there reared to manhood, coming to America in 1891, and locating in Illinois. After working as a farm hand three years he rented a farm for four years, and then purchased 130 acres in Victor township, DeKalb county, Illinois. There he remained until 1902, when he sold and came to this county. Here he purchased 240 acres in section 20 and eighty acres in section 19, Bennington township, remodeling the buildings, and making many improvements, including the putting up of 900 rods of woven wire fencing. Mr. Johnson now carries on general farming and breeds Durham grade cattle and Chester White hogs. He is a Republican in politics, and has done jury duty in Austin. The subject of this sketch was married February 26, 1896, to Anna M. Marcus, a native of Norway, and they have six children: Christina, Esther, Albert, Clara, Julia and Emma.

L. O. Axnas, a successful farmer of Frankford township, was born in Norway, August 2, 1841, son of Ole Olson and Bertha Skjeie, who spent the span of their years in Norway. L. O. received his education in his native land, and there spent his early manhood. At the age of twenty-nine years, in 1870, he came to America and located at Rushford, Fillmore county, where he worked out by the month for two years. Then he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres of land in section 16, Frankford township. This land he broke and improved, built a home and outbuildings and added land from time to time until he owned 200 acres of rich land. He has recently sold forty acres to his son, leaving 160 acres, all in section 16. Here he now follows general farming. He is a Republican in politics, but has never sought public office. The subject of this sketch was married November 9, 1872, at Rushford, to Christie Leland, who was born in Norway, July 16, 1846, and came to America in 1872. She has proven a most able helpmate in all Mr. Axnas' undertakings. They have five living children: Severt, who lives at home, owns eighty acres and works the home place; Christina, wife of George A. Wright, banker of Grand Meadow; Hannah, wife of Leander T. Jester, real estate broker of St. Paul; Martin, who is manager of the Home Telephone Company at Grand Meadow, and Julia, who is a student at Hamline University. One son, Olaf, died at the age of four years. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.



WILLIAM BROWN AND FAMILY.

William Brown is one of the staunch old pioneers of Mower county, and is greatly honored throughout the community. He and his good wife, though reared amid the tranquillity of an older part of the country, left the comforts and advantages of an established community and with courage turned their faces toward the West to hew out for themselves a home in the wilderness. With energy and intelligence they established their household, and their names will be respected for generations to come for the good that they have accomplished. Of them it may truly be said that their lives have assisted in the advancement of all that is good and admirable. Mr. Brown has been a member of the town board twenty years, was assessor four years, and clerk of school district 32 for fifteen years. He did the county good service for twelve years as county commissioner and during that period always stood staunchly for the benefit of the county at large. For a period of thirty years his voice has been heard in the various county and state conventions of his party. His wife is still the active, strong, sympathetic and intelligent helpmate that she has always been, and the influence of their home on the community has ever been a salutary one. In fraternal circles Mr. Brown has been no less prominent, being a member of the Blue lodge, Chapter and Commandery of the Masons, as well as of the M. W. A. and the Royal Neighbors. William Brown was born in Scotland, New Year's day, 1843, son of Alexander and Margaret Brown, who brought their family to America in 1846 and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y., where Alexander followed his trade as a rope maker three years, thus saving enough money to purchase a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he and his wife ended their days, Alexander at the age of seventy and Margaret at the age of ninety. William left Wisconsin when twenty-four years of age, and lived a short time in Cresco, Iowa, after which he came to Mower county, and on March 29, 1868, acquired 160 acres of land in section 8, Pleasant Valley township. He remained there two years and then came to his present location in section 24, now owning 400 acres in sections 23, 24 and 25. He also owns ten acres of timber land in High Forest, Olmsted county, and a fine city residence with three acres of ground in Stewartsville. Since the failure of the wheat crop in 1878 he has followed diversified farming and stock raising. He has about sixty head of cattle of the Short-horn variety and for many years has made a specialty of Poland-China hogs, of which he has 125 head. Mr. Brown was married, July 30, 1865, to Marion McCoy, a native of Scotland and daughter of James and Marion McCoy. This union has been blessed with seven children: Alexander W. is married and lives in St. Paul, where he is engaged in the grain commission business.

James E. is married and is now engaged in machinery and implement dealing in Stewartsville, where he owns the Farmers Supply Company. He was reared in this county, taught school here nine years, and was subsequently salesman for the Fairbanks-Morse Company, seven years before starting in business for himself. George F. is married and lives on an eighty-acre farm of his own and operates his father's farm in Pleasant Valley. Maggie is the wife of E. H. Englehart, of Pleasant Valley. Della May died at the age of thirty-three. She was the wife of Frank Reese. At the age of thirty her health failed; local physicians were unable to diagnose her ailments, and she was treated by leading medical men of Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Omaha and Denver without relief. Finally, in Denver, realizing that the end was near, she started for home. When she reached Omaha she was too greatly exhausted to continue the journey, and her parents accordingly joined her there and were at her bedside when she died two months later. William is married and farms in Racine township. The youngest died in infancy.

James R. Brownell, a veteran of the Civil War, is one of the honored and esteemed residents of Racine township, and is a member of the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was born in Michigan, April 1, 1839, son of Sands and Hannah M. Brownell. In 1853, the family came to Decorah, Iowa, and a few months later came to Fillmore county and staked their claim for a home, the land not then being surveyed. The parents lived in that county until the fall of 1869, when they moved to Mahaska county, Iowa, some years later moving to Waukee, where the mother died. After some years the father went to Oregon, and died in 1904 at the age of ninety-three. James R., better known as Russell, received his education in the district schools, and continued to work on the home farm until 1861, when he went to Michigan and engaged in nursery work. In 1863, he enlisted in Co. I, Mounted Rangers, and afterward served in Co. D, Brackett's Battalion, in North and South Dakota and Montana, the troops being sent to settle the Indian troubles. He received his honorable discharge at Ft. Snelling in 1866. Then he returned to Fillmore county and in 1868 purchased 160 acres of land in section 29, Racine township, afterwards buying 160 acres joining, where he farmed six years. Subsequently he sold out, but in 1882 had to take the farm back again. He now owns a fine farm of 320 acres. On this place he carries on general farming. James R. Brownell married, March 23, 1887, Anna E. Gove, daughter of Dennis and Sally B. Gove, whose mother was one of the early school teachers in Mower and Fillmore counties. This

union has been blessed with five children: Howard is at home; Florence is teaching; Percy is a student in Grinnell college, in Iowa; Tracy is a student in the University of Minnesota and Fred a student at Grinnell college.

Henry O. Basford was born at Guilford, Me., April 22, 1838. At the age of fourteen he commenced learning the printing business in the Jeffersonian office of W. E. Quiner. After learning the business he entered the Watertown academical and preparatory school, and there studied two years. Soon after he became connected with the Argus and Democrat office at Madison, Wis. He then went to St. Paul in 1836 and was engaged on the Minnesotian. From there he went to St. Joseph, Mo. He was engaged on the Daily West, and just before the breaking out of the war he was one of the pioneers who carried the art of printing across the plains of the West, and was connected with the Rocky Mountain News, of Denver, Colo. He was one of the large number who lost their accumulation of years when that office was destroyed by floods. For eight years afterward he was a miner of gold, and a claim holder in the famous California gulch, where Leadville, Colo., now stands. After leaving Colorado, he was employed upon the Chicago Tribune, where he remained until he came to Austin in 1867, and soon thereafter became connected with the Austin Register, which he conducted for many years. Mr. Basford was married, September 28, 1876, to Mary E. Miller, of Winona, Minn. He was appointed postmaster at Austin July 2, 1884. Mr. Basford has now retired from active life and devotes his time to general literary work. He was the most conspicuous figure in the publication of a former history of this county.

C. T. Bussell, a descendant of the Maine family of that name, spent some fifteen years of his life in Grand Meadow, and as he went in and out among the people acquired a reputation for honor and integrity that won him the honor and respect of all who knew him. He was born in Mt. Vernon, Me., September 19, 1828, son of Joseph B. and Mary (Chapman) Bussell, honored residents of that place. He acquired such education as the schools of that period afforded, and remained at home until eighteen years of age, at which time he started to learn the hatters' trade. This business he followed until 1861, when he went to Aroostook county, Maine, and remained two years. In 1883 he came west, settled on a farm in Bennington township for a short time, and in 1885 came to Grand Meadow village, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1903. Mr. Bussell was married, September 5, 1849, to Emeline W. Davis, daughter of Levi and Dorothy (Batchelder) Davis, the former of whom spent his life as a farmer in Maine. Mr. and Mrs. Bussell were

blessed with seven children. Charles E., Mary E., Joseph H. and Emily A. are dead. The living are Herbert E., Harry B. and Abbie G. Abbie G. was born in Oakfield, Aroostook county, Maine, married Gulick Hestad, and has two children, Joseph A. and Helen E.

William Cooper, Jr., a pioneer, was born in Lincolnshire, England, and married Mary Jackson. She died in 1839, and he married Ann Bennett, of Surrey, Kingston, England. In 1853 this couple crossed the briny deep to America, and lived three years in Kane county, Illinois. Then they lived a while in Fillmore county, this state, and in 1858 came to Bennington township, where William Cooper pre-empted the northwest quarter of section 24. Later he acquired the northeast quarter, thus making 320 acres. On this tract he followed general farming, and he and his good wife underwent all the trials and privations of pioneer days. He died in November, 1887, and his wife in March, 1888.

William Cooper, retired farmer, now living in Spring Valley, is one of the pioneers of the county, having come here as a boy of seventeen. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, November 5, 1841, son of William and Mary (Jackson) Cooper, and was brought to America by his father and step-mother in 1853, living with them in Illinois and in Fillmore county, this state, before coming to Bennington township in 1858. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and remained at home until his father's death. Then the farm was divided between him and his brother Robert, William taking the northwest quarter of section 24. To this he added until he now has 400 acres in section 24 and the northwest quarter of section 23, a total of 560 acres. Here for many years he conducted general farming, making a specialty of Durham grade cattle. At the time of his father's death, William rented out his part of the farm, but continued to live on the place until 1906, when he moved to Spring Valley and purchased his present home. Mr. Cooper is an independent voter and has served on the school board for several years. He is a man of sterling character, greatly respected by his neighbors. The subject of this sketch was married, January 20, 1906, to Sophia Guy, daughter of Henry Guy, an early settler of Bennington.

Peter Christenson, a farmer of Grand Meadow township, was born in Denmark, April 19, 1837, son of Christian Peterson. With his wife and son he came to America in 1872 and located in Lyle, this county. After three months there, he worked for the Hon. Charles J. Felch for a year. Then he rented land in Racine township and farmed four years. In 1877 he came to Grand Meadow, settled in section 2, and lived there two years. Then he lived in various places in the township until 1901, when



WILLIAM COOPER

he took up his location on section 3, erected a home and out-buildings, and has since carried on general farming, owning a quarter section of good land. The subject of this sketch married Mary Rasmussen and they have eight children: Chris, Mary, Clara, Alfred, Tena, Theodore, Alice and Peter. Mary is the wife of Thomas Jacobson. Tena is the wife of J. C. Christianson. Clara is married to Henry Faubel.

J. B. Dunham is one of the respected residents of Spring Valley, and is held in high regard in Bennington township, where, for so many years, he was a leading citizen. He was born in Indiana, December 11, 1837, son of Henry and Mary (Walker) Dunham, natives respectively of Ohio and Indiana, who came to Mower county in 1856, pre-empted 160 acres of land, and followed farming in Frankford township the remainder of their lives. J. B. Dunham came to Mower county with his parents, but shortly afterward went to Decorah, Ia., where he worked out by the month, three years. Then he returned to Bennington township and purchased 120 acres in section 2. To this he later added forty acres, making in all 160 acres in the northeast quarter of section 2. Here he built his home and the necessary outbuildings, and engaged in general farming. As the years passed, he flourished and prospered, and in time added another eighty just over the line in Frankford township, making in all 240 acres of land. In 1911 he sold his farm and retired. It is worthy of note that in the early days Mr. Dunham planted a grove of cotton woods, and the trunks of some have already reached a circumference of nine feet. Mr. Dunham has always been an active worker in his township and county, holding many offices of trust and honor, greatly to his own credit and to the satisfaction of his fellow citizens. He served his township as chairman for a good many years, and was on the school board for many terms. At the time of his father's death, Mr. Dunham purchased a home for his mother in the village of Spring Valley, and in this home he now lives. The subject of this sketch married Ann E. Williams, born in New York state, April 1, 1844, daughter of Apollos and Betsy (Adams) Williams, who came west in 1861 and located in Pleasant Valley, this county, and engaged in farming the remainder of their days. Mr. and Mrs. Dunham are the parents of nine children: Ella is now Mrs. Charles Taylor, of Michigan; Minnie is now Mrs. Ralph Davis, of Breckenridge, Minn.; Edith is a school teacher in Spring Valley; Myrtle is Mrs. L. G. Haasrud, of Whalen, Minn.; Bertha, now Mrs. Clyde Edgerton, of Spring Valley; Roy married Bessie Smith, of Minneapolis; Emma is now Mrs. J. C. Olson, of Spring Valley; Ray is now living in Seattle, Washington; Ernest also lives in Seattle, Washington. Edith and Minnie are both graduates from the normal department of the

Northern Indiana Normal College at Valparaiso, Ind., and Myrtle and Roy graduated from the Southern Minnesota Normal College at Austin. All the daughters have taught school.

Frank P. Dawes, a successful stock buyer of Austin, was born in Waushara county, Wisconsin, October 30, 1864, and came to Mower county in 1885 to marry Lania Chandler, after which he returned to Waushara county with his bride and remained five years. Then he again came to Mower county and located in Udolpho township, farming there five years. Since 1902 he has been located in Austin, where he buys and sells live stock in large quantities. Mr. Dawes is a Republican in his political views, and the family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a popular member of the Austin Commercial Club, and also affiliates with the Masonic order and with the M. W. A. Mr. and Mrs. Dawes have had one child, Chester Inman, who died at the age of four months.

Stephen Chandler was born in Canada, and was married in Austin to Abigail Mehatable Richardson. They came to Lyle township at an early date, and there their daughter, Lania, now Mrs. Frank P. Dawes, was born, March 28, 1862. In that same year, Stephen Chandler joined the Union army, served in several important engagements, and was finally captured and imprisoned in Andersonville, where he was starved to death by his cruel captors. His widow came to Austin later and was married to I. J. B. Wright.

Alfred Richardson, one of the earliest pioneers of Mower county, was born in New England, and came to Austin from Iowa by ox team, in 1856. Here he farmed until 1880, when he went to the Dakotas, later moving to Tennessee, where he died. He built one of the early houses in Mower county, hauling the lumber sixty miles by ox team from West Union, Ia. He was the father of Mrs. Albert Hart, Mrs. Stephen Chandler, and grandfather of Mrs. Frank P. Dawes.

Philip T. Elliott, vice president of the Exchange Bank, at Grand Meadow, has been clerk of the village two years, member of the village council three years, and clerk of the school board four years, and in these several capacities has given general satisfaction. He was born in Fox Lake, Wis., January 19, 1865, son of Ford T. and Phoebe (Olive) Elliott. He came to Grand Meadow with his father in the fall of 1878, at the age of thirteen, and five years later, at the early age of eighteen, engaged in the hardware business on his own account. Six years later he sold out, and entered the employ of G. F. Greening in his bank and store. When the Exchange Bank was organized under state laws in 1906, he became vice president, a position he has since retained. Mr. Elliott is popular among his fellows, and

is a chapter Mason. He married, October 1, 1890, Anna S., daughter of Samuel Rodman Stout and Jane Hibbs, his wife. This union has resulted in two children, Roland P. and Janette.

Ford T. Elliott was born in Sunderland, and for many years followed the sea. He made his first trip to America in 1856, and thereafter crossed the Atlantic many times until 1859, when he took up his permanent abode in this country. He learned the blacksmith trade at Portage, Wis., stayed there a few years, then followed his trade in Ripon, in the same state, some eleven years. He took up his abode in Grand Meadow, October 10, 1878. His wife died April 26, 1897.

Samuel Rodman Stout was a native of Bensalem township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and his daughter, Anna S., was born in Philadelphia. Samuel came west in 1886 and located in Grand Meadow township, where he bought a section of land known as the Grouse Ridge Farm, the south half of section 28 and the north half of section 33, where he farmed until January, 1903, when he came to Grand Meadow village, where he died May 17, 1903. His wife, whose maiden name was Jane Hibbs, died November 15, 1902.

Caswell Fairbanks, a retired farmer, now living in Austin, was born July 25, 1835, in the town of Antwerp, Jefferson county, state of New York, son of Hiram and Effie Fairbanks. Caswell Fairbanks lived at home until of age, working on the farm, and attending school in winter. In 1856 he married Miranda Tyler, daughter of John and Huldah (Warren) Tyler, and this union has been blessed with three children, Charles E., Jennie B. and Burton, the latter being dead. In 1857 Caswell Fairbanks came west and located in the town of Springfield, Dane county, Wisconsin; worked the farm until the war of the rebellion broke out. In 1861 he enlisted in Company G, First Regiment of Berdan's sharpshooters, and is now a member of the McIntire Post, No. 66, C. G. A. R. In 1864 he drove a team across the plains to the gold fields of Montana, remaining two years. Then he came back to Davis county, lived there some years, and then moved to Mower county, Minnesota, in 1876, purchasing a farm of 240 acres, which he still owns. While at Dexter he was town treasurer and school treasurer, and assessor for a long period. His son now manages the farm in Dexter township.

Luke B. Fairbanks was born in Vermont, March 26, 1838. When he was seventeen years of age he went to Iowa to join his brother in Mitchell county, and spent three years with him in Mitchell and Howard counties, then came to Austin with him. His brother purchased an interest in a steam saw mill, and later added a flour mill. He assisted his brother in the mill there until 1860, when he sold out and bought a farm in

Windom. He spent the summer with his brother here; then in the fall returned to Vermont. He enlisted there, in May, 1861, in Company F, Third Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and with the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac. The first battle in which he participated was the battle of Lee's Mill, in which he was wounded. As soon as he was able to make the trip he was granted a furlough and visited home. He joined the regiment after an absence of three months. His health was not good at the time, and he was detached for the recruiting service in Vermont. He again joined the regiment in December, and was with them until after the close of the war, having veteranized in 1863. Among the many battles in which he participated, we mention the following: Second battle of Fredericksburg, Wilderness, Petersburg, Cold Harbor, Spottsylvania, was with Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley, and participated in the battle of Winchester, was in New York City at the time of the riot, and in the battles of Gettysburg and Cedar Creek. He was mustered into the service as a private. He was promoted for gallant and meritorious conduct, May, 1864, to first lieutenant, and soon after to captain. He was discharged from the service with the regiment, July, 1865, and returned to Vermont and bought a farm. In 1869 he sold out there and emigrated to Kansas. He took a homestead and bought some wild land in Washington county. He built a stone house and improved a portion of the land, living there until 1872, when he sold and came to Mower county and bought wild land in the northeast quarter of section 29, Windom township. He was joined in marriage in 1863 to Caro Bowen, also a native of Vermont. They had seven children, named Samuel, Henry, Eugene, Guy, Dan, Leila and Florence. In 1893 Mr. Fairbanks sold his farm in Mower county and removed to southern California, where he remained two years. He then returned to Austin, where he resided until his death, October 24, 1907.

Patrick Geraghty, now deceased, was one of the substantial residents of this county. He watched Austin grow from a village of 400 inhabitants, and lived to enjoy the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. He was street commissioner eleven years, and treasurer of St. Augustine church many terms, digging the cellar, grading the grounds and carting the stone for the new edifice now occupied by the people of that parish as a house of worship. The subject of this sketch was born in Ireland, in November, 1822, and came to this country in 1851, landing at Castle Garden, New York, in 1851. He went at once to Fairmont, W. Va., and was employed there one year by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Then he went to Janesville, Ill., in 1855, and was there married to Ellen Barrett, daughter of Edward and Rose (Gibbons) Barrett. They went together to Freeport, Ill., and lived there six



C. F. GREENING.

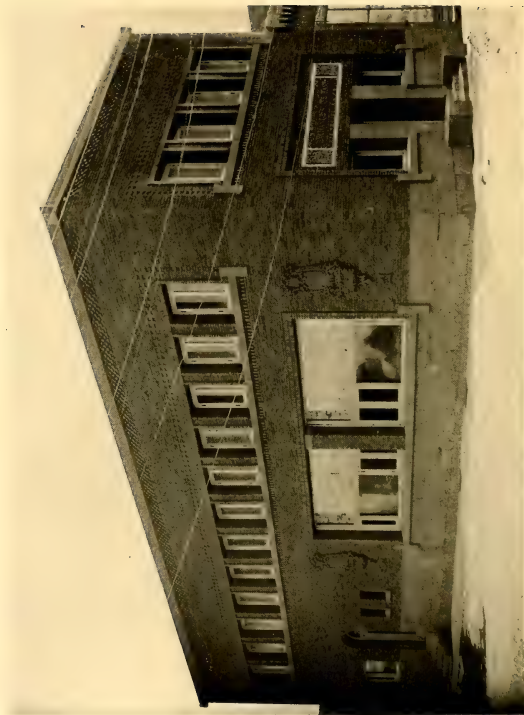
years. Their next stopping place was McGregor, Ia., where Patrick Geraghty resumed his occupation of railroad work by becoming a contractor, and assisting in the construction of the C., M. & St. Paul road from McGregor to Austin, this work taking about three years. Mr. Geraghty then settled in Austin, and a year later, in 1868, purchased a farm of eighty acres, which he retained until 1905, when he retired. To Mr. and Mrs. Geraghty were born nine children: Lawrence, who married Alice Shannon; Elizabeth, deceased; Ellen, now Mrs. Jacob Shook; Mary; Rose; Charles E., who married Jennie Hattlestead; Sarah P., now Mrs. F. Tichein; John P.; and Thomas F., married to Flossie Wagner. Mr. Geraghty died in the fall of 1910.

Thomas J. Grimes, who is ably serving as mayor of Grand Meadow, after sixteen years on the village council, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., July 5, 1858, son of James and Bridget (Whalen) Grimes. He came to Grand Meadow in 1879 and worked for John Peterson, the pioneer blacksmith. In 1882 he became a partner in this concern and in 1891 became sole owner. He now has one of the best appointed shops in Mower county and does a large business. He is a popular member of the M. W. A. and stands well throughout the county: He and his wife, who was Maggie Dugan, of La Crosse, occupy a pleasant home in the village of Grand Meadow. James and Bridget (Whalen) Grimes came from Ireland, and in 1852 James located in Milwaukee, where for many years he was employed in a grain elevator. It was in Milwaukee that his son, Thomas J., was educated and learned the blacksmith trade.

Charles F. Greening, a distinguished citizen of Grand Meadow, was born in Worcester, England, January 20, 1844, son of John and Maria (Kelly) Greening. He came to America in 1846 with his parents, and landed at New Orleans, from which city he came up the Mississippi river in the steamer Eclipse to Galena, Ill. From there the family went by lead wagons to Farmersville, now Mazomanie, Dane county, Wis., and located in the old English colony at that place. Charles F. Greening farmed with his parents and spent two years learning the tinsmith trade. In 1863 he enlisted in Co. A, Eleventh Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served through the war. After the battle of Mobile, which was practically the ending of the war, he returned home and finished his apprenticeship as tinsmith. Later he came to Mower county with a hope of benefiting his health, war service having reduced his weight to less than 100 pounds. After his health was partially restored, he started work for Corbett & Allen, hardware merchants and tinsmiths at LeRoy, and in this employ he continued until the firm was burned out.

Then he began his employ with Daniel Caswell. For fifteen months he worked as night clerk in Caswell's hotel, and then went with Mr. Caswell on a farm. Mr. Caswell was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun, and Mr. Greening settled his estate, after which, in 1871, he came to Grand Meadow and started a tin shop and hardware store, also engaging in private banking. In this business he continued thirty-three years. In 1904 he disposed of his shop, but still retains his banking interests and also engages in farming. Mr. Greening's career as a banker began in 1871, and for four years he conducted a private banking establishment. Then the banking house of Greening & Warner was established and continued until 1882. In that year Mr. Warner sold out and the business reverted to Mr. Greening. In 1906, Mr. Greening organized the Exchange State Bank of Grand Meadow, which was incorporated the same year, and is now doing a flourishing business, with Mr. Greening as president. In 1910, the institution took up its home in its beautiful new building, which is one of the architectural ornaments of the village. Mr. Greening has done his community marked service in various ways. In 1876-77, he served in the lower house of the Minnesota legislature, and through his efforts the herd law was passed. This particular bill contributed greatly to his popularity, and the following election he was named for the state senate, but declined the honor. Mr. Greening is senior vice-commander of the G. A. R., a charter member of Lodge 121, A. F. & A. M., a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of LeRoy, and a charter member of St. Barnard Commandery, No. 14. He is also vice-president of the Minnesota Bee Keepers' Association, and has served various other societies as officer or director. In addition to this, he has held various local offices, in village and township. The subject of this sketch married Clara E. Caswell, daughter of Daniel E. and Sarah M. (Taylor) Caswell, and they are the parents of five children: Nanna M. is the wife of W. D. Lockwood; Elgar F. is cashier of the Exchange State Bank of Grand Meadow; Josie E. is the wife of Samuel M. Croft, postmaster in the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.; Charles W., cashier of the First Bank of Melstone, Mont., lives in Grand Meadow, and Elmore, the youngest, was named from the Elmore estate in England, from which the Greenings originally came.

Elgar F. Greening, son of Charles F. and Clara E. (Caswell) Greening, was born in Grand Meadow, March 31, 1873. He attended the district schools and the Curtis Commercial college in Minneapolis. Upon the completion of his course he entered the Exchange State Bank of Grand Meadow and became its cashier, a position he still holds. Mr. Greening is a member of the Masons and of the M. W. A. He married Josie Rowell,



EXCHANGE STATE BANK, GRAND MEADOW.

daughter of Mark and Jene (Cary) Rowell, and they have one son, Rollin.

Carl A. Grimm, a modern farmer of Grand Meadow township, owns 120 acres of good land in section 36, and a comfortable home, a well-equipped farm, and a variety of live stock, and carries on farming on an extensive scale. He was born in Germany, February 2, 1870, and came to America with his parents in 1875. They lived in Iron Ridge, Dodge county, Wis., three years, and then after a short stay in Grand Meadow, located in section 12, Clayton township, where they continued to farm until the father's death in 1895. Carl A. remained at home on the farm and worked with his parents. In 1902 he came to Grand Meadow and purchased his present farm. He married Daisy Lewis, daughter of E. H. and Della (Foat) Lewis, and they have an attractive son, Raymond L., eight years of age.

Joseph E. Gee and his three accomplished sisters, Cornelia T., Harriet J. and Martha E., live on the old Gee homestead, section 1, Racine township, and constitute an interesting family of enthusiastic workers. Their farm of sixty-seven acres furnishes them with the usual farm produce, but their energies are largely directed to weaving, at which all have become experts both in an artistic and a mechanical way. William Gee, the father, and Lucretia Gee, the mother, came to Fillmore county in 1859, and to Mower county in 1864. In the latter year, William enlisted in Co. E, First Minnesota, and served one year in the ranks. The children were educated in the schools of Fillmore county, and gradually, in the failing health of their parents, assumed the burdens of the household. Some years ago, Joseph E. began to lose his health, and many departments of farm work became too strenuous for his strength. Accordingly he took up the work of weaving rugs and carpets. In this he is assisted by his sisters, and they do excellent work, marketing their product over a wide territory. In 1903, a fourth sister, Eva L., who until then had remained at home, married William Schoppers, of Frankford. The Gees attend the United Brethren church at Spring Valley and all are strong temperance advocates.

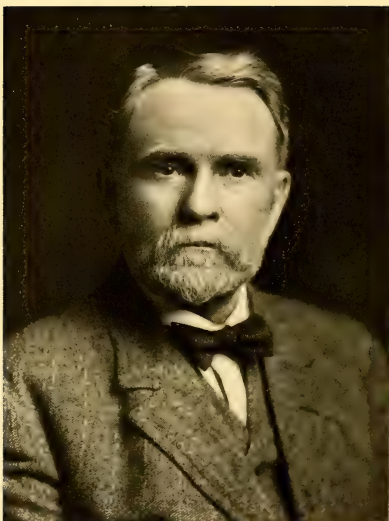
Franklin M. Higbie, live stock dealer of Grand Meadow, was born in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, March 3, 1858, son of C. J. and Ann E. (Wilson) Higbie. He acquired his earlier education in Wisconsin, and came with his parents to Mower county in 1878, remaining with them until 1880, at which time he purchased 160 acres of land from his father. This land, which was located on section 1, Grand Meadow township, was his thought and care for over a quarter of a century. Here he built his home and reared his children, and here he successfully carried on general farming until November, 1906, when he rented

his farm and took up his residence in Grand Meadow village. Soon after coming to the village, F. M. Higbie formed a partnership with F. T. Seabern, in the live stock business, under the firm name of Higbie & Seabern. This company engages exclusively in cattle and horse buying, shipping most of the animals to Chicago and Milwaukee. Mr. Higbie is a director in the First National Bank of Grand Meadow and president of the Farmers Elevator Company, stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company, the Home Telephone Company and the M. W. A. Hall Association. He is a Republican in politics, and while living in the township was chairman of the board of supervisors and served on the school board for years. The subject of this sketch was married, November 25, 1880, at Green Lake, Wis., to Jeanette Wilson, who was born at Rush Lake, Wis., July 6, 1861. Mr. and Mrs. Higbie are the parents of five children: Clarence W., Leland C., George F., Chester E. and Lawrence W. Clarence W. was born February 20, 1882, attended the district schools, the Minnesota Agricultural College at Minneapolis and a business college in Mankato, and afterwards became cashier in the First National Bank of Grand Meadow, a position he still occupies. He was married in July, 1910, to Jessie A. Bush, of Grand Meadow, Minn. Leland C. was born November 19, 1885, graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1910, and is now superintendent of schools in Little Fork, Minn. George F. was born July 31, 1888, and is now a student at the University of Minnesota College of Engineering. Chester E., was born June 9, 1890, graduated from the Grand Meadow high school, took a year's course at Hamline and is now teaching in North Dakota. Lawrence W. was born February 11, 1901.

C. J. Higbie and Ann Wilson, his wife, were born in New York state, were there married, and in the early '50s located in Jefferson county, Wisconsin. In 1852, C. J. was seized with the California gold fever, and together with a party of about sixty started on foot across the deserts for California. On reaching there, C. J. Higbie remained about two years, and then returned to Wisconsin with about \$10,000 in gold dust. After farming a time in Jefferson county, he moved to Green Lake county in the same state, and followed farming until 1878, when he came to Grand Meadow township, Minnesota, with his family, and purchased the 360 acres known as the Langworthy farm. Later he acquired eighty acres adjoining on the west and also the Joe Sorben farm of seventy acres on the east. Subsequently he sold 160 acres to his son, Franklin, leaving a farm of 310 acres, upon which he conducted farming operations until 1895, when he rented his farm and removed to Grand Meadow village, where



C. J. HIGBIE.



G. R. HOPPIN

he purchased a home in which he lived until November 1, 1906, when he went to San Diego, Cal., and purchased some lots in that city, on which he erected a home and where he now lives. Mrs. Higbie died on the home farm, March 31, 1884, and later Mr. Higbie married Mrs. Mary Wood. C. J. and Ann (Wilson) Higbie were the parents of nine children: Wallace C., Lettie, Ida A., Franklin M., Anna S., Harry W., Halbert E., Wilson S. and Edgar C. William Wilson and Agnes McArthur, his wife, parents of Jeanette Wilson Higbie, were born in Scotland, the former coming to America in 1841 and the latter in 1844, and locating at Rush Lake, Wis., being married at Janesville, Wis. They pre-empted land in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and there farmed the remainder of their days, William Wilson dying December 14, 1876, and his wife, who was remarried to Rev. J. W. Fridt, passing away August 14, 1883. This union was blessed with seven children: William, John, Albert, Frank, Jeanette, Marion and Agnes.

William R. Hoppin, one of the popular farmers of Grand Meadow township, has 320 acres of land on which he successfully conducts farming operations in a modern manner. He was born in the township where he still resides, October 15, 1874, son of William P. and Callie H. (Paddock) Hoppin, early settlers. He was reared on the home farm, and has always devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. The last few years he has devoted his attention more to stock raising, and fattens annually for the Chicago market several carloads of cattle, sheep and hogs. He has three large silos, and everything raised on the farm is fed and sold in the form of live stock. He has a seed house especially constructed for the curing of seed corn, where he saves many bushels for his own planting and finds a ready market for all surplus right at home. He married Alta G., daughter of G. K. and Harriett (Kirkham) Harvey, and they have three children, Wilma A., Clara W. and Geraldine H. Mr. Hoppin is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

William P. Hoppin, now of Northfield, Minn., was for many years a farmer of this county. He was born in Wauwatosa, near Milwaukee, Wis., and came to Pleasant Valley township, this state, about 1867. There he purchased a farm adjoining one which his father had acquired. In 1874 he came to Grand Meadow township, and located on the southwest quarter of section 18, where he built a frame house. A few years later he purchased a farm in the northwest quarter of section 17, where he lived twelve years. He married Callie E. Paddock.

George R. Hoppin, retired farmer and extensive land owner, now living in the village of Grand Meadow, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., February 21, 1849, son of Richard and Lydia (Potter)

Hoppin, the pioneers. George received his early education in the district schools of Mower county, and in the Fillmore high school, in Fillmore county. In 1874 he went to Nevada and was employed as a cowboy for four years, after which he spent a similar period mining. Then he returned to Mower county and took up farming in Dexter for five years. Afterward he moved to Marshall township, purchased land, developed the place, erected buildings, and carried on general farming until 1903. when he rented his farm to other parties, and moved to Grand Meadow village, where he now lives, spending his time in looking after his extensive land interests, which include 1,100 acres, partly in Mower county and partly in North Dakota, in which state he has a valuable quarter section. Mr. Hoppin is a strong Republican, and for many years was clerk of the Elkton school district. He was married October 7, 1889, at Spring Valley, Minn., to Nellie M. Rahilly, of Grand Meadow township, who was born October 12, 1870, and died July 7, 1898. This union has resulted in four children: Ralph H., who was born August 24, 1891, is clerk in a store in Grand Meadow; Mamie, Isabelle and Mattie live at home.

Richard Hoppin, one of the early settlers of Pleasant Valley township, now deceased, was born in the city of Providence, R. I., February 23, 1811. He there grew to manhood, and received his early education in the public schools. When he was twelve years of age he commenced work in a morocco factory, and was employed there until 1838. In the fall of that year he started for Wisconsin, on a steamboat to Albany, then by canal to Buffalo, thence on a steamer to Milwaukee, where he procured a team and thus reached Walworth county. There he found a man holding as a claim the present site of the city of White-water, and this man offered to sell the claim for \$50. But Mr. Hoppin went two miles further and purchased a claim that pleased him better. He then returned to Milwaukee and in company with his brother John opened the first exclusive boot and shoe store in Milwaukee, which at that time contained about four hundred inhabitants. In the winter his brother became homesick, and concuded to return to Providence. There being no railroad and the lakes being frozen over, he bought a horse and made the trip home on horseback in forty-one days. In June, 1839, the wife of Richard Hoppin, with two children, started from Providence, and taking the same route that her husband had taken met him at Milwaukee, after a journey of twenty-one days. There they procured a team and then drove to their new home. He built a double log house on his claim, and drew the lumber from Milwaukee to complete the building. The land upon which he had settled came into the market that

spring, and Mr. Hoppin attended the first land sale held in Milwaukee. In 1841 he traded his land for a squatter's claim in the limits of the city of Milwaukee. This land he entered from the government and lived there fourteen years, after which he moved to Columbus, Columbia county, and bought a farm on which he lived until 1860, when he sold out and came to Mower county, and purchased the southeast quarter of section 28, township of Pleasant Valley, where he remained until 1874, when he came to Dexter and bought eight acres within the limits of the corporation, and built a house which they occupied for many years. In 1888 he returned to Milwaukee, where he died. Lydia Potter, wife of Richard Hoppin, was born in Cransten, R. I., July 6, 1810, and was married in 1835. This union resulted in nine children: Anna L., Henry, Lewis, Edward, Helen, William P., George R., Louise and Susie.

Anton Hansen, now deceased, was a substantial farmer of Frankford township, and lived a quiet, respectable life. He did not care to mingle actively in politics, but devoted his life to his home and family. The subject of this sketch was born in Denmark, June 9, 1857, son of Hans Hansen, also a native of that country. Anton received his education in Denmark, and there grew to manhood. He came to America in 1880 and located at Rochester, Olmsted county, this state. In 1890 he went to Minneapolis and became a coachman. Later he clerked in a grocery store. In 1893 he came to Mower county, and purchased eighty acres in Frankford township, the land being located in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 18. On this farm he conducted general farming until his death, October 3, 1903. He was married June 9, 1883, to Amelia Carlson, born near Stockholm, in Smaland, Sweden, February 15, 1862. She came to America in 1882, and located in St. Peter, this state. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hansen has been blessed with seven children: Ida, deceased; Hans, born September 28, 1886, a conductor on the street car lines of Minneapolis; Ralph, deceased; Clara, born February 5, 1890; Clayton, born November 28, 1893; Dagmar, born May 6, 1896; Ralph, born November 9, 1900. Since her husband's death, Mrs. Hansen has conducted the farm herself, and has been very successful in her management. In 1910 she erected a fine new home. The family is well thought of throughout the entire community.

John E. Hovda, a reputable citizen of Frankford township, was born on the farm where he still lives, January 16, 1871, son of E. O. Hovda, one of the earlier settlers. John E. received his early education in the district schools of Frankford and was reared to agricultural pursuits on his father's farm of 180 acres in section 9. In 1893 he rented the home place and a few years

later purchased it. He has made many improvements, has remodeled the buildings and developed the land. On this place he now conducts general farming, and makes a specialty of grain raising and breeding Black Poll Angus cattle. Mr. Hovda has been clerk of school district 36 for three years, and has also served as constable. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and attends the Lutheran church. The subject of this sketch was married September 7, 1898, to Laura Gilbertson, born in Grand Meadow township, October 2, 1875, daughter of Julius and Mary Gilbertson, who came to America from Norway, located in Grand Meadow township and engaged in farming, the father dying in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Hovda are the parents of three children: Elgar J., born July 17, 1900; Jeanette, born October 1, 1902, and Agnes, born February 9, 1905.

Albert A. Johnson, the talented editor of the Grand Meadow Record, has established an excellent business and issues a paper which is a credit to the village and surrounding country. He was born in Brownsdale, this county, December 4, 1874, and there received his earlier education. While a boy he started his newspaper career by printing and publishing the Brownsdale Leaflet. In 1893 he sold this to L. L. Quimby, and went to Morton, Renville county, this state, where he engaged in newspaper work for eight months. Then he worked on the Austin Register, in Austin, this county, for a while, until failing health interfered with his work. In 1894 he came to Grand Meadow and purchased his present business, which he has since continued with the exception of a year and a half, when he leased it and went to Amherst, Wis., and took charge of the Amherst Advocate. Then he returned to Grand Meadow. Under his management and guidance the paper has become one of the most influential in the county. He also does commercial and job work, and deals extensively in books and stationery. Aside from owning his own business and building, Mr. Johnson holds stock in several local enterprises. He is a Republican in politics, belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and attends the Methodist Episcopal church. The subject of this sketch was married February 23, 1898, to Lulu E. Bieman, of Brownsdale, and they have an adopted son, Maynard C., born May 1, 1905.

Julius W. Johnson, the industrious and hard-working head miller for A. S. Campbell at the Peerless Roller Mills, Austin, was born in Watertown, Wis., February 28, 1858, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ole Johnson, both natives of Norway. The parents came to this country about 1847 or 1848, and located in Watertown, Wis., where Ole Johnson was a merchant and conducted a general store. The family came to Austin in the spring of 1870, and farmed for several years. Ole died in 1891, his wife



GEORGE B. LOUCKS AND FAMILY.

having passed away many years previous at Watertown, Wis., when Julius was a small boy. Julius attended the common schools, worked on a farm and clerked in a store. In the fall of 1880, he entered the employ of Mathew Gregson, the miller, and remained with him until 1886, when he entered the employ of the Engle Company. When the Campbell brothers purchased the mill in 1890 he continued to work there, and when that firm was divided he still remained with the mill, his excellent work having had much to do with its success. Mr. Johnson married Louise Scholl, and to this union has been born one son, Arthur P. Mrs. Scholl was born in Stratford, Ontario, September 10, 1868, being one of a family of eight daughters and one son born to Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Scholl, who for many years, until the former's death, in 1909, conducted the German Hotel in Austin. The place is now managed by Mrs. Scholl and her son.

John F. Krause, who has been assessor of the town of Grand Meadow for the past eight years, is one of the prosperous men of the community. He believes in modern farming methods and his interest in education has been shown by his service as treasurer of school district 21 for twelve years. The subject of this sketch was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, May 20, 1873, son of William and Amelia (Wagner) Krause, the former of whom was born in Germany and came to America when he was sixteen years of age. John F. came with his parents to Grand Meadow township when he was five years of age, and spent his early life on his father's farm in section 35, which he has since bought of his father, and where he still makes his home and successfully carries on general farming. He married Anna Grimm, daughter of August and Wilhelmina (Erdmann) Grimm, and they are the parents of three children: Alwin, Edna and Viola.

George B. Loucks, one of the supervisors of Frankford township, is one of the well-to-do and progressive men of the community. He is an independent voter, has served as treasurer of school district 17, and is vice-president in the Geyser Threshing & Shredding Company, No. 2, of Frankford township, as well as a stockholder in the Farmers' Store, at Spring Valley. Being of a fraternal nature, he has also allied himself with the Modern Woodmen of America, at Spring Valley. George B. Loucks was born in Schoharie county, New York, March 18, 1848, son of Harmon and Eva (Bassler) Loucks. He received his education in his native state and was reared to agricultural pursuits. In 1868, on his twentieth birthday, he left New York state, and located in Sparta, Wis., where he remained until fall. Then he located in Spring Valley, in Fillmore county, and remained until 1871. In that year he went to South Dakota and

took up land, owning at one time as much as 1,100 acres of land, this being at the time of the grasshopper plague in 1875. After his father's death, that year, he came back to Minnesota. As he had not complied with all the legal formalities, his claim in South Dakota was jumped. Accordingly he made his home in Spring Valley. Shortly afterward he purchased 160 acres in section 26, Frankford township, and subsequently he became manager of the C. W. Taylor farm of 360 acres in Spring Valley township. In 1890 he moved onto his farm in Frankford township. At that time only twenty acres were broken. He broke and improved the land, erected suitable buildings, and now carries on general farming, making a specialty of Shropshire sheep and Black Poll-Angus cattle. He has set out many evergreen and other shade trees, and has five acres of apple orchard. The subject of this sketch was married December 5, 1875, to Delphine Bassler, born in Clinton, Wis., October 13, 1856, daughter of Benjamin and Rachel (Cornwall) Bassler. This union has been blessed with six children: Burdette Royal, Callie E., Mattie E., Benjamin E., George F. and Sadie L. Burdette Royal was born May 28, 1878, married Lottie Tart, lives in Bennington township and has two children, Mildred M. and Helen C. Callie E. was born April 7, 1880, married Henry Kasten, of Spring Valley, and they have one child, Delbert D. Mattie E. is the wife of Frank Clouse, of Bennington township. Benjamin E. was born August 31, 1882, and married Grace Dean. They have two children, Everett and Leon. George F. was born May 16, 1895. Sadie L. was born October 8, 1897. Harmon Loucks was born in New York state and there married Eva Bassler, a native of the same state. In 1869 they came to Minnesota and located in Spring Valley, Fillmore county, where they purchased land and engaged in farming until his death, June 27, 1875. His wife is still living. Harmon Loucks was born July 11, 1825, and his wife, September 20, 1827. They were the parents of twelve children: George B., of Frankford; David, of Hamilton; Maria, now Mrs. E. A. Hess, of Frankford; Andrew, dead; Jeremiah, of Frankford; Alexander, of Oklahoma; Anna, now Mrs. Thomas Fryer, of Spring Valley; Irving, of Spring Valley; Elmer, of Austin; Margaret, wife of George Churchill, of Spring Valley; Hattie, dead, and Edmund, of Little Falls, this state.

Benjamin Bassler was born in New York state and married Rachel Cornwall. They located in Illinois in 1854, and the following year took up their residence in Clinton, Wis., where they engaged in the hotel business, Mr. Bassler also following his trade as a harness maker. Rachel Cornwall Bassler died in 1861, leaving five children: Althera, deceased; Eugene N., deceased; Carloss E., of California; Judson S., of Darien, Wis.; Delphine.

now Mrs. G. B. Loucks. Later in life Benjamin Bassler married Cornelia Willis, who bore him three children: Katherine L., of Darin, Wis.; Benjamin W., deceased; Minnie E., Chicago, now Mrs. William Leigh.

Andrew Lybeck, a substantial and prosperous farmer of Grand Meadow township, was born in Racine township, this county, March 22, 1861, son of Andrew Lybeck, the elder. The father was born in Norway, came to America, married and lived for a time in Racine township, this county. Then he moved to Pleasant Valley township with his family and there ended his days, his wife also passing away there. Andrew, the subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm, and after his father's death continued for a while to manage the homestead. Later he purchased eighty acres in section 2, Grand Meadow, where he now resides. He has extensive interests throughout the county, and is well known as a successful farmer.

Martin Lokke, a progressive young farmer of Frankford township, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, March 27, 1872, son of Thomas M. and Carolina E. Lokke. He was brought to Frankford township by his parents, and was here reared to manhood, attending school in district 97 and learning agricultural pursuits from his father. In 1909 he took charge of the home farm, and is conducting it in a modern and up-to-date manner. At one time he was town marshal for Grand Meadow, and he is now treasurer of school district 97. He married Annie O. Hovda, daughter of E. O. and Anna Hovda, and they have two bright children, Myrtle A. and Truman E.

Arthur McNally, now deceased, was one of the early settlers of Grand Meadow township, and became one of the prominent residents of the county. He was born in Ireland, and came to America in 1839, at the age of eighteen years. After several years in Canada he went to Rutland, Vt., and was there married, in 1842. In 1849 he came westward to Kenosha county, Wisconsin, lived there two years, and then settled in Lyons, Iowa, for four years. About 1856 he came to Grand Meadow, and here farmed until his death, in May, 1906. His wife died March 6, 1911. Both were most estimable people, and their influence in the community was ever toward respectability and decency. They were the parents of Daniel, John, Dennis, Mary (deceased), Thesa (deceased), Ellen (deceased), James, Charles, Ella and Agnes. Agnes married Homer Clemens and they have two bright boys, Duard and Jack. Mrs. Clemens and John McNally now operate the home farm and they are among the most successful and prosperous farmers in the township.

Henry C. Nissen, now deceased, was a farmer in Grand Meadow township for many years, and his labor and toil were

crowned with the fruits of success. He was born in a part of Schleswig, then Denmark, now Germany, July 29, 1850, son of Christian and Abalonia, both of Danish birth, who spent eight years in America, but ended their days in Schleswig. Henry received his education in his native land, and came to America in 1867, at seventeen years of age. For eleven years he was variously employed, part of the time in Rochester, Minn. In 1877 he came to Grand Meadow township, and purchased eighty acres of land, one mile south of the village. He added to this tract until he owned 240 acres of land, on which he lived and prospered, erecting a home and a fine set of buildings, and following general farming until 1904, when he purchased twelve acres and a residence in Grand Meadow village, and retired, making his home here until his death. Mr. Nissen was a Democrat in politics and was a member of the school board at the time of his death. He was also a stockholder in the First National Bank, of Grand Meadow. The subject of this sketch was married March 13, 1887, to Betsy Engebretson, born in Norway, January 28, 1855, daughter of Ingebret Arneson and Anne Sanderson, his wife, both of whom died in Norway. Mrs. Nissen came to America in 1873 and located at Rockdale, Olmsted county. She bore to Henry C. Nissen seven children: William, who lives in Aberdeen, S. D., is in the automobile and machinery business; Albert E. is on the home farm; Peter is traveling; Alma is the wife of Oscar Carlstrom, an attorney of Aledo, Ill.; Anna teaches at Groton, S. D.; Mary is a student in the Grand Meadow high school, and Elmer, the youngest of the family, is still in the graded schools. It is worthy of note that in 1902 Mrs. Nissen took a trip to her old home in Norway and spent ten weeks with her parents. Since her husband's death she has looked after the home affairs, and is a capable housekeeper and wise mother.

Elling Haugen, now deceased, was one of the early residents of Racine township. He was born in Norway and married Mary Haugen. They came to America in 1850, located in Wisconsin, and there lived for a considerable period. It is worthy of note that they made the trip across the Atlantic in a sailing vessel and spent seven weeks on the water. In 1864 they came to Mower county, settled in Racine township, and there engaged in farming. In 1880 they went to the northwestern part of Minnesota and there Elling died. His wife is still living, at the good old age of eighty-three years.

Peter E. Peterson, now deceased, was for many years an honored farmer of Frankford township and later of Grand Meadow village. He was on the town board of Frankford for some time, served as clerk of his school district for several terms, and after coming to Grand Meadow served as mayor two years. Aside



PETER E. PETERSON AND FAMILY.

from 200 acres in Mower county, he owned 160 acres in Aitkin county, this state, and was also a shareholder in the First National Bank of Grand Meadow. Peter E. Peterson was born in Norway, April 26, 1846, son of Iver and Helen Gertrude Peterson, also natives of Norway. The family came to America in 1850 and located in Green county, Wisconsin, where both parents died. Peter started in life for himself by purchasing eighty acres in Racine township, Mower county, where he went in 1869. Later he sold this tract, and removed to Frankford township, where he bought eighty acres in section 31. Later he added an eighty acres adjoining in section 32, and still later forty acres adjoining, but over the line in Bennington township. This tract of 200 acres he broke and developed, erected a fine home and suitable buildings, and carried on general farming until 1896. Then he rented his farm, and removed to Grand Meadow village, where he purchased a lot and built a modern home, in which he lived the remainder of his days. His decease, October 5, 1908, was sincerely mourned by his many friends. The subject of this sketch was married October 13, 1870, to Caroline Haugen, born in Wisconsin, November 13, 1854, daughter of Elling and Mary Haugen, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have four children: Edward, of Grand Meadow; Helen G., of Clayton township, wife of Edwin Julson; Theodore, now living in Washington state, and Marie, who lives at home. There is also an adopted son, George. The family worships at the United Norwegian Lutheran church.

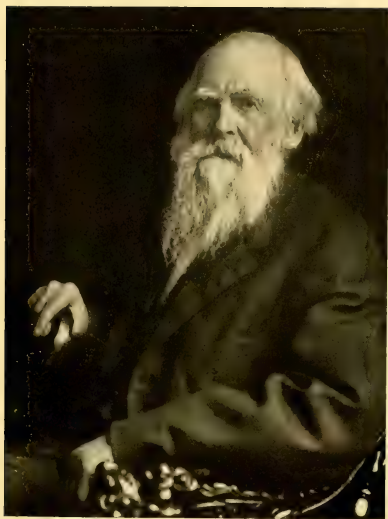
William A. Nolan, of Grand Meadow village, has an enviable record of active work in public and business affairs. He was elected to the legislature in 1900 and served ten years, his successor taking office in 1911. He has been president of the school board of the village of Grand Meadow since its organization as a separate district, and has been at the head of the Grand Meadow Fire Department for over twenty years. He was a member of the village council for three years. He is a harness and leather dealer, an automobile agent, and is interested in the banking and telephone business. Withal, the social side of his nature has not been neglected and he is a popular member of the A. F. & A. M., the M. W. A., and the B. P. O. E. He attends the Congregational church, of which he is a trustee. It may be truly said that Mr. Nolan is a man of affairs, pushing, active, progressive and public spirited, interested in everything that is for the betterment and welfare of his village, his town, his county, his state and his nation. William A. Nolan was born in Yankton, S. D., October 4, 1862, son of Charles E. and Sarah A. (Gordy) Nolan, pioneers. He was educated in the schools of High Forest, Minn., and at the age of nineteen learned the harness-making trade from John

Connor, at Grand Meadow. Eventually he purchased the business, and the establishment is now conducted on a large scale. Mr. Nolan married Laura Greening, daughter of John Greening, and their union has been blessed with four children: Mabel I., Bernice, Merrill C. and William R. The parents of William A. Nolan—Charles E. and Sarah A. Nolan—were natives of New York state, where a brother of Charles E. was for many years clerk of the supreme court. Charles E. was an early pioneer, came to High Forest, Olmsted county, in 1855, and was the first merchant to open a store in that town. He died in 1865.

George W. Reed, retired merchant and farmer, now living in Dexter, was born in Cook county, Illinois, September 26, 1853, son of Robert and Mary Reed. He was brought to Pleasant Valley township, this county, in 1856, and was here reared to manhood, receiving his boyhood education in the district schools. In 1882 he took charge of the home farm, and conducted this place in connection with a farm of 160 acres he had purchased in 1878, until 1892, when he became the Dexter representative of the McCormick Manufacturing Company. In the fall of 1904 he entered into partnership with Jesse C. Vermilyea, the firm name being Vermilyea & Reed. After five years Mr. Vermilyea sold his interest in the business to R. S. Noyes. A year later Mr. Reed bought out his partner's interest, and on August 4, 1910, sold out to W. E. Daley. Mr. Reed served as treasurer of his school district twenty years, and was assessor several terms in Pleasant Valley township. He was married April 17, 1876, to Alice E. Frase, and to this union two children have been born, George H. and Florence E. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

Robert Reed and Mary, his wife, were natives of New York state. They located in Cook county, Illinois, in 1851, and in 1856 came to Minnesota, and preëmpted 160 acres in section 7, Pleasant Valley. Robert died in February, 1885, and his wife passed away in 1880.

Frederick M. Peirson, a retired hotel proprietor and farmer now living in Grand Meadow, was born April 4, 1834, at Chittenden, Chittenden county, Vermont, son of John and Nabby (Saxton) Pierson. At the age of three years he was brought by his parents to Ohio, in 1840 to Rockford, Ill., in 1844 to Silver Creek, Ill., and in 1846 to Winslow, Ill. At the age of nineteen he located in Columbia county, Wisconsin, and in May, 1854, took up a claim in Minnesota. From that month until October he lived in La Crosse, and then located on his claim, which was in section 1, township 104, range 15, being included in the tier of sections which were set off from Mower county and are now a part of the



F. M. PEIRSON.

township of High Forest, in Olmsted county. Mr. Peirson broke this land, worked it industriously, and made his residence for many years in a "grout" house, made of lime and sand. This building stood until 1909, when it was torn down to make way for a substantial modern farm building. During the Civil war this building was converted into a tavern. In 1874 Mr. Peirson moved to Rochester, Minn., and engaged in the hotel business there for three years. In 1877 he came to Grand Meadow and purchased a hotel, which he conducted until 1898, when he rented the hotel and retired. Aside from this hotel building, where he now makes his home, he owns a 200-acre farm in Olmsted county and a quarter section in Grand Meadow township. A part of this latter tract is noted for its sand for building purposes, the deposit covering over five acres to a depth of eighteen feet. Mr. Peirson is a man of strong character and has always been active in upholding those things which he believes to be right and good. He is a Republican in politics and served as a justice of the peace for two years. Mr. Peirson was married November 20, 1860, to Catherine Keyes, a native of Ireland, who has proved a most able helpmeet. A son, Dr. Homer F. Peirson, lives in Austin. John Peirson and Nabby Saxton, his wife, were natives of Vermont, both of English descent. While living in Vermont John Peirson was a lumberman in the Canadian woods. In 1837 he removed his family to Ohio, lived there three years, then in 1840 went to Rockford, Ill., and in 1844 took up his residence in Silver Creek, two years later going to Winslow in the same state. In 1848 John Peirson started overland for California, and acquired considerable land along the Pacific coast. Later he went to the Sandwich Islands, where he died in 1852. His wife lived in Illinois until his death, after which she returned to her old home in Vermont, where she died. It is interesting to note that practically the first claim recorded for what is now Mower county was that of J. S. Peirson, in September, 1854. J. S. was a son of John and a brother of Frederick M.

Artemus W. Sanborn, a venerable and honored citizen of Racine township, was born in eastern Canada December 5, 1833, son of Stephen and Rhoda (Clement) Sanborn, the pioneers. Artemus received his education in the public schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he was taken by his parents in 1843. There he grew to manhood, and in the year 1856 came to Mower county and preëmpted the northwest quarter of section 26, in Racine township. After proving up his claim, he went back to Wisconsin, and there remained until 1862, when he came to Mower county again, and settled on his claim, living on it three years. In 1865 he sold out, and purchased his present place of eighty acres in section 35, where he built his home, developed the

land, and made all improvements, following general farming until 1882, when he secured a position as railway mail clerk. This position he held until 1887, his run being between Winona and Chicago. During this period of five years he made his home in Rochester, that he might better educate his children and be nearer his work. At the close of this period he returned to his farm in Racine and carried on general farming until 1900, when he retired from active life. He and his good wife continue to live on the home farm, which has been in their possession for forty-six years. Mr. Sanborn is a Republican and has served as town clerk and as assessor and a member of the school board; he was census enumerator in 1880. He is a high degree Mason and a member of the Methodist church. Artemus W. Sanborn was married November 19, 1866, to Mrs. Harriett (Cochrane) Allen, who was born in New York state, January 2, 1838, daughter of James and Fidelia (Aldrich) Cochrane. The Cochranes came west to Dodge county from New York state in 1848, and there James Cochrane died in 1852, his wife, Fidelia, expiring in Juneau county, Wisconsin, in 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn have two children, Clara B. and Charles W. Clara B. married Attorney Charles E. Callaghan, postmaster at Rochester, and they have four children, Howard, Lola, Helen and Gertrude. Mrs. Sanborn died February 27, 1911.

Charles W. Sanborn, son of Artemus and Harriett Sanborn, was born in Racine township, June 15, 1872. He received his education in the public schools of his neighborhood, attended the public schools of Rochester and finished with a course in the Darling Business College, at Rochester, from which institution he graduated, July 5, 1894. He then returned to Racine township, and engaged in farming. He now rents his father's farm of 100 acres, is successful in his operations and is well thought of in the community. He married Anna Eichhorn November 18, 1897. She was born in Racine, October 25, 1870, daughter of A. Eichhorn and Rosa Roth, his wife, retired farmers living in Racine village. Mr. Sanborn is a member of the M. W. A. and the I. O. O. F.

Stephen J. Sanborn has occupied a position of trust and honor in the community for many years, and his influence and integrity have had much to do with the shaping of the destinies of his vicinity. He was an efficient and courageous deputy sheriff under Sheriff Allan Mollison, was champion of the cause of the farmer in the legislature of 1877-78; was clerk of Racine township several terms, and has been director of the First State Bank, of Racine, for a considerable period. He is an honorable, upright man, well thought of in the community wherein he has

made his home for many years. He was born in Canada, February 12, 1837, son of Stephen and Rhoda (Clement) Sanborn, who brought him to the United States in 1844, locating in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he attended school and grew to manhood. In 1859, during the Pike's Peak enthusiasm, he crossed the plains, making the journey partly on foot and partly on horseback, and spending the winter prospecting along the Sacramento river. The following two years he spent in a similar manner in Utah, and then mined in Montana until the fall of 1865, when he started for home. He went down the Missouri river in a flatboat to Council Bluffs, thence by rail to Chicago, via St. Joe, and then made the trip from Chicago to Racine township, Mower county, where, during his absence, his parents had located. He purchased land and engaged in farming, tilling the soil and prospering withal, until he owned 240 acres, the village of Racine standing on what was originally a part of his farm. In 1890, when the railroad passed through and the village was started, he built a stone building and for eight years engaged in the general merchandise business. Then he engaged in grain dealing, which he successfully followed until 1910, since which time he has lived in retirement, enjoying a well-earned rest. Mr. Sanborn still owns about 200 acres of good land, besides his home and the grain warehouse, the farm being conducted by his son Elias. The subject of this sketch is an independent voter, a member of the I. O. O. F. and a high degree Mason. He was married, November 18, 1869, to Theressa R. Stewart, who was born in Trenton, Wis., October 28, 1852, daughter of Deacon Jonathan and Laura (Martin) Stewart. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Sanborn has been blessed with four children, two living and two dead, Elias D., Pirna L., Lola and Sybil. Elias D., who conducts the home farm, married Nettie Schroeder and they have two sons, Royce E. and Stanley S. Pirna L. married R. W. Chadwick, cashier of the First State Bank of Racine, and they have one son, Vern R. Lola and Sybil died of diphtheria in the fall of 1880.

Deacon Jonathan Stewart, a pioneer, was a man universally respected and took a prominent part in advancing the cause of religion and good morals, whenever his influence could be felt. He was born in Oneida county, New York, September 9, 1816. His father, Jonathan Stewart, Sr., was a farmer, and to this vocation Jonathan, Jr., was bred. The subject of this sketch was married, March 16, 1840, to Laura Martin, who was born in Oneida county, July 10, 1822. In 1854 he went to Wisconsin and purchased 160 acres of government land, lived on it twelve years, then sold the place and came to Racine township, June 11, 1857, and pre-empted land in section 27. Deacon Stewart and his wife were the parents of seven children: Jonathan A., John Wesley,

Latham D., Thaxter M., Eugene P., Theresa R. and Jay Emmett. Jonathan Stewart died in 1908 and his wife in 1898.

Stephen Sanborn was born in Canada and married Rhoda Clement, of Vermont, both being descended from noble New England stock. They lived in Canada for a time and in 1843 came to the United States, locating in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they engaged in farming until 1861, when they came to Mower county and settled in Racine township, where they purchased land in section 26 and lived until their death, the father passing away July 22, 1870, and the mother October 12, 1896. They were the parents of four children. A. W., Stephen J. and D. C. live in Racine, and Elias died in the United States service.

George J. Schottler, M. D., a successful practitioner of Dexter, was born in Germantown township, Washington county, Wisconsin, November 5, 1870, son of Nicholas and Anna (Regenfuss) Schottler, Wisconsin pioneers. He attended the district schools of Washington county, Wisconsin, and after due preparation entered the preparatory teachers' course at the Northern Indiana Normal School, at Valparaiso, Ind. Then he taught school in his home district a year and subsequently again returned to Valparaiso, finishing his courses there in 1892, receiving the degree of B. S. In the meantime he had also attended clinics in therapeutics and taken a preparatory medical course. He spent the fall and winter of 1892-93 at home in order that his brother might attend school, and in the fall of 1893 entered the Rush Medical College, at Chicago, graduating in 1896 with the degree of M. D. He at once took the state examination and was admitted to practice, taking up his life work at Dexter, June 6, 1896. He has built up a large practice in village and county, is faithful and skillful in his services and is greatly beloved by those families to whom he administers in the hours of sorrow and distress. Dr. Schottler belongs to the American, the Minnesota State, the Southern Minnesota and the Mower County Medical societies, has been president of the latter and is now its treasurer. Dr. Schottler is a stockholder in and vice-president of the First State Bank of Dexter. He was at one time elected president of the village council of Dexter, but refused to serve. Dr. Schottler owns a fine home in Dexter, which he built in 1898, and in addition to this a house and ten acres of land in the village limits, which he rents. On his land he has set out 500 apple trees, which are promising well. The subject of this sketch was married, September 12, 1900, at Dexter, to Kathleen, daughter of Abram Vermilyea. She was born December 13, 1876, and her union with Dr. Schottler has been blessed with four children: George Jesse, born August 26, 1901; Max E., born June 26, 1903, and Kenneth B. and Kathryn B., twins, born July 17,



GEORGE J. SCHOTTLER, M. D., AND FAMILY.

1904. Nicholas Schottler, one of the successful farmers of Washington county, Wisconsin, and father of Dr. George J. Schottler, of Dexter, Mower county, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, January 16, 1843, and came to America with his parents in 1846, locating in Germantown township, Washington county, Wisconsin. He was there educated and on attaining manhood's state, took up farming and located on 120 acres of land in two tracts, part of which was the original homestead. This land he cut and burned over, grubbed, broke and improved, and has since carried on general farming. He was married on January 12, 1870, to Anna Regenfuss, born in Washington county, Wisconsin, June 17, 1849, of German ancestry. She died June 13, 1908, leaving six children: George J., the Dexter physician; John, a farmer of Windom township in this county; Margaretha, now Mrs. Joseph Mueller, of Austin township; Kunnie, who died before her mother; Conrad, on the old farm in Wisconsin, and Cecilia and Mary, who are likewise at home with their father.

O. W. Shaw, president of the First National Bank of Austin, has continued in this position for over four decades and his cordiality and business acumen have raised what was at the start a small village bank, well to the foremost as one of the sound financial institutions of southern Minnesota. Though very successful in his enterprises, he is unassuming, democratic and easily approachable by any who need his assistance or advice, and his opinions on matters of business policy are often sought by the people who patronize his institution. Amid the cares and stress of a busy life, he has found time to become a deep student of early United States history, and his documents and first editions of rare historical works are of a value which only the careful collector and discriminating observer can realize. The subject of this sketch was born in Carroll county, New Hampshire, July 19, 1834, son of Edward and Elizabeth (Lunt) Shaw. When young he engaged in clerking. For three years he was at Great Falls, N. H., then for two years was in a wholesale dry goods house in Boston. Afterward he was for three years in trade in New Hampshire with Samuel Merrill. Then, with Mr. Merrill he came to Iowa, where the latter afterward became one of the honored governors of that state. For some years the gentlemen mentioned conducted a general store at McGregor, Iowa, under the firm name of Merrill, Dearborn & Shaw. In 1867 Mr. Shaw went to Chicago, and for a short period engaged in the dry goods commission business with a partner, the firm name being Rollins & Shaw. In 1867 he came to Austin, formed a business alliance with Harlan W. Page, who had previously been conducting a private bank here, and organized the First

National Bank of Austin, of which Mr. Shaw became president and Mr. Page cashier. Aside from taking an active interest in the affairs of Austin, Mr. Shaw has served as president of the state board of control for the school for dependent children at Owatonna. He is a member of the Society of Colonial Wars, the American Historical Association, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and the National Geographical Society. He was married in 1862 to Sarah J. Rollins, daughter of D. G. Rollins, of Great Falls, N. H.

C. M. Skyhawk, one of the prominent men of Racine township, was born in Mower county, July 25, 1860, son of Lewis and Mary Skyhawk, who came to Minnesota from Indiana in 1856. They were typical pioneers, coming the whole distance in ox wagons and homesteading 160 acres in section 29, Racine township. Lewis Skyhawk died in 1863 and his wife in 1891. C. M. was educated in the schools of Mower county and was reared on a farm. At the age of nineteen he started working out by the month and subsequently purchased eighty acres of the old homestead. On this place he has since resided, carrying on general farming and raising cattle for beef and dairy purposes. He sells cream to the Racine Farmers' Co-operative Creamery, in which he is one of the stockholders. May 12, 1886, he married Emma B. Espenschied, daughter of John Espenschied, a farmer of Racine township, now deceased. John Espenschied came to Mower county before the war and after enlisting saw service on the frontier against the Indians. To Mr. and Mrs. Skyhawk have been born four children: Mertie, who is one of the successful teachers of Mower county; Gladys E., who is a telephone operator; Alta J., wife of Charles A. Cady, of Racine, and Stanley M., who is at home. The subject of this sketch belongs to the M. W. A. and to the A. F. & A. M. He is a Republican in politics, was town supervisor twelve years and director of school district 33 for fifteen years.

Otto S. Stenseth, clerk of the town of Frankford, is a native of this county, born on the farm where he still resides, November 16, 1880, son of Sever and Gjertrude Stenseth. He was reared on the home farm, received his early education in the district schools and continued farming with his father until 1902, when he rented the home farm. Since that date he has successfully conducted general farming operations. He votes the Republican ticket, belongs to the M. W. A. and attends the Lutheran church.

Sever Stenseth was born in Norway and came to America in 1866. After living in Racine a year, he purchased forty acres in section 16, Frankford township. To this he later added sixty acres in section 15, making 100 acres in all. On this farm he

and his wife Gjertrude still live, although they rent the place to their son Otto S. Of their twelve children seven are living. They are: Inger, wife of Sever Kval, of Frankford township; Sarah, wife of S. E. Wilsie, of Grand Meadow; Emma, wife of Peter Weeks, of Racine village; Sever; Nels, of Grand Meadow; Otto S., of Frankford, and Sophia.

Charles H. Steffens, a large stock raiser of Racine township, was born in Fillmore county, this state, December 24, 1861, son of Richard and Mercy (Hammond) Steffens, natives of Canada. The father Richard went to California in 1852 and engaged in the lumber business six years. Then he returned to Canada and was there married October 26, 1860. Subsequently he and his wife came to Fillmore county and purchased 160 acres of land. Richard Steffens died in 1883 and his wife Mercy at Spring Valley in 1907. Charles H. received his education in the district schools and taught school five years, this period including one year's service in the schools of Grand Meadow. In 1884 he finished a full course in the Normal School at Winona. Later he settled on his present farm, where he has been very prosperous. He is one of the supervisors of the town, has been treasurer of school district 34 for twenty-three years and belongs to the Grange and the M. W. A. He is one of the extensive farmers of the county, cultivating 465 acres, a part of which he leases. The subject of this sketch was married, December 24, 1885, to Ella Felch, daughter of C. J. Felch, first probate judge of Mower county. This union has been blessed with eight children. Nellie M. is a student at Carlton College. Bonnie Richard graduated from the agricultural school of the University of Minnesota, and is now employed by the state drainage commission. Alice is at home. David B. is a student in the Spring Valley High School. Joseph Warren died October 20, 1895, aged one year and fourteen days. Charlotte and Raymond attend the Racine village school. The youngest of the family is Lincoln. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Hon. Charles J. Felch, first judge of probate of Mower county, was born in Cattaraugus county, New York, January 1, 1818, son of Benjamin Felch, a native of New Hampshire. He was reared in his native state and in 1842 married Mercy G. Barrows, by whom he had four children. David F. M. enlisted in the Ninth Minneapolis Volunteer Infantry and died in a war hospital. Benjamin F. died from injuries caused by being thrown from a horse. The two youngest died in infancy. Mercy Barrows Felch died in Wisconsin in 1850, and Mr. Felch was married, January 1, 1852, to Hannah L. Sheldon, a native of Steuben county, New York. Two children blessed this union. Charles H., deceased, and Ella H. Mr. Felch came to Mower

county in 1855 and purchased two pre-emption claims, one from Joseph Robb and the other from J. D. Gregory. These claims had been made in 1854. Mr. Feleh was the first probate judge in this county, and in 1863 and 1867 sat in the senate of this state as representative from the district composed of Mower and Dodge counties. He was also elected county commissioner in 1870 and also for the succeeding term. He died November 1, 1893.

John Terlinden, a prosperous farmer of Frankford township, was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, February 6, 1858, son of Jacob and Katherine Terlinden, natives of the Rhine country in Germany. He received his education in the public schools of his native county, there grew to manhood and remained at home engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1884, when he came to Minnesota, located in Carver county, and purchased ninety-six acres of land in Young America township. There he followed farming until 1900, when he came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres in Frankford township, half in section 17 and half in section 20. He greatly improved the land and buildings and has successfully conducted farming operations. Mr. Terlinden is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Grand Meadow and in the Geiser Threshing Company No. 1, of Frankford township. He is a Republican, attends the German Lutheran church and belongs to the M. W. A. The subject of this sketch was married, September 18, 1884, to Amelia Buss, of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and they have seven children: Jacob, John, Minnie, Lizzie, Henry, William and Clarissy. Jacob Terlinden was born in the Rhine country in Germany and with his wife Katherine came to America in 1843. After stopping a month in Milwaukee, they located in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and there farmed the remainder of their days, Jacob dying in 1886 and Katherine in 1906. They were the parents of nine children: Peter lives on the old homestead in Fond du Lac county; Katherine is Mrs. Henry Schmidt, of Wayne, Wis.; Sybila is Mrs. John Wagnor, of Grand Meadow; Minnie died at the age of twenty-five; John lives in Frankford township, this county; Jacob lives in McLeod county, Minn.; Jerry lives in Carver county, Minnesota; Elizabeth is Mrs. William Cisco, of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin; Annie is Mrs. Amos Cisco, of Thorpe, Wisconsin.

John Wagnor, a retired farmer now living in Grand Meadow, was born in Germany, December 19, 1850, son of John and Amelia (Hodleman) Wagnor. He was brought to America by his parents in 1856, at the age of six years, and at the age of ten years was taken to Washington county, Wisconsin, where he attended school and grew to manhood. Then he went with his



MR. AND MRS. JOHN WAGNER.

JOHN WAGNER'S RESIDENCE



parents to Fond du Lac, Wis., and there worked with his father until twenty-four years of age. At that age he started out in life for himself as a carpenter, working four years for one man in Campbellsport, Wis. In 1878 he came to Mower county, and purchased 160 acres of land in Frankford township, section 21. On this farm he labored faithfully, developing the land, erecting buildings, and adding various tracts from time to time until he owned 850 acres, all of which, with the exception of a 255-acre tract, which he sold. In 1906 he rented his farm and moved to the village, where he now occupies one of the finest homes in the village. He was married in October, 1878, to Amelia Dickman, who died in February, 1885, leaving four children: Herman, who is on the old homestead; John F., who lives in Fillmore county; Emma, who married Ora Bennett, a contractor of Wheatland, Wyo., and Lydia, who died in 1895. Mr. Wagner was married the second time March 18, 1886, to Syvilla Terlinden, who was born in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, November 10, 1853. To this union have been born two children: Amanda, now Mrs. August Detloff, of Frankford township, and Helen, who lives at home. Mr. Wagner is a staunch Republican, a director of the school board of his district, and a member of the German Lutheran church.

John Wagner, Sr., and Amelia Hodleman, his wife, parents of John Wagner, Jr., were natives of Germany. They crossed the briny deep in 1856 and located in Milwaukee for a period of four years, during which period the senior Wagner followed his trade as a blacksmith. In 1860 this rugged blacksmith moved his family to Washington county in the same state, and after following his trade for a while purchased thirty acres of land, erected a shop and combined farming with blacksmithing for fifteen years. Then he went to Fond du Lac county, in the same state, and there farmed until 1892. Then he came to Mower county, purchased 160 acres, and was on the high road to success and prosperity, when, in October, 1895, while driving a horse rake, he was thrown from the vehicle by a runaway horse, and was killed. His wife died October 4, 1910. John Wagner, Sr., and his wife were the parents of eight children: John, who is a retired farmer of Grand Meadow; Amelia, now Mrs. William Krouse, of Grand Meadow township; William, of Wahpeton, N. D.; Ida, who married Charles Fuchs, and died March, 1909; Herman, of Arthur, N. D.; Albert; Frank, of Grand Meadow, and Anna, now Mrs. Haskell Yonsie.

Jacob Terlinder and Katherine Engfelds, his wife, parents of Mrs. John Wagner, of Grand Meadow, were natives of Germany and came to America at an early day, locating in Fond du Lac, Wis., where they farmed all their lives. They were the parents

of nine children: Peter, who is on the old homestead in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin; Katherine, who is now Mrs. Henry Schmidt, of Wayne, Wis.; Syvilla, now Mrs. John Wagner, of Grand Meadow; John, of Frankford township; Mina, now dead; Jacob, of Glencoe, Minn.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. William N. Cisco, of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin; Gerhard, of Young America, Minn., and Anna, now Mrs. Amos Crico, of Thorpe, Wis.

D. C. Sanborn, of Racine township, a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Canada, January 20, 1844, son of Stephen and Rhoda (Clement) Sanborn, who took him to Dodge county, Wisconsin, when he was in his first year. In 1861, D. C. and his father came to Racine township and purchased land, but the subject of this sketch enlisted almost at once in the Civil war. After serving his term of three months in the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, he enlisted in Company C, Twelfth United States Infantry, and remained in active service until the close of the war, seeing active service at Cedar Mountain, Antietam, the second battle of Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, third Chancellorsville or Mine Run, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Hatches' Run, Pebble's Farm, Bethel Church, the Weldon Railroad, and in many minor engagements and continuous skirmishing. He received his discharge at Elmira, N. Y., April 21, 1865, and then returned to Racine township, where he purchased eighty acres of land in section 26, and farmed until 1900, in the meantime, from 1872 to 1882, buying and shipping cattle to Milwaukee and Chicago markets. Mr. Sanborn is an independent Republican and was town supervisor for thirteen years, as well as assessor eleven years. He was treasurer of his school district twenty-one years. The subject of this sketch was married November 25, 1865, to Sarah Hall, who died March 5, 1910. An adopted son, William C., is now in North Dakota.

Munson O. Wilsie, who has been manager at Grand Meadow for the C. L. Coleman Lumber Company since 1873, was born in Irondequoit, Monroe county, New York, April 20, 1843, son of German T. and Hannah (Hance) Wilsie, both of New York colonial families. He was brought to Minnesota by his parents in 1856 and was reared to manhood in Olmsted county, receiving his education in that county and in the academy at Chatfield, in Fillmore county. After farming a few years he went to Rushford, in this state, and was employed in the grain business, having the distinction of shipping the first bushel of wheat over what was then the Southern Minnesota railroad. Later he assumed his present connection, and has since taken his part in the affairs of the village. The confidence in which he is held is shown by the fact that he was the first worshipful master of Grand Meadow



H. G. WILSON AND FAMILY.

Lodge, No. 121, A. F. & A. M. The subject of this sketch married Mary Hall, daughter of Philander and Emilie (Riddle) Hall, and they have the following children: Orville, Willis A., Edah B., Emma L., Stephen E., Ethel H., Giles H., Ralph M. and F. Leigh. Mrs. Wilsie was born in Vermont, and her father was a native of New York state. German T. Wilsie and Hannah Hance, his wife, were both descended from the earlier colonists of New York state. They came west in 1844, and located near Lansing, Mich., where they remained a year. In December, 1845, they settled in Southport, now Racine, Wis., and a year later went to Fond du Lac, in the same state, remaining ten years. In 1856 they located in Olmsted county, this state, and there German T. passed away, in 1902. His wife, aged ninety-one, makes her residence in Grand Meadow with her son. Edah B., daughter of Munson O. Wilsie, married L. M. Hunt, and they have five children: Lloyd, Claude, Earl, Franklin and Esther H.

Herbert G. Willson, proprietor of Burr Oak Farm, is one of the scientific farmers of Frankford township and carries on agricultural operations along the latest approved methods. His home is comfortable and well located, his outbuildings are in excellent condition and his land is in a high stage of cultivation. The subject of this sketch was born in Ashtabula county, Ohio, April 9, 1853, son of Samuel and Charlotte (Taylor) Willson. He was brought by them to Frankford township at the age of nine years and here he was reared to manhood. After attending the schools of the neighborhood he entered the normal school at Winona and graduated in 1878. After teaching in the district schools of Frankford two years he rented a farm and started in life for himself. In 1880 he purchased the old homestead from the other heirs and gave his father a life lease of same. From year to year he has made improvements and he now successfully conducts general farming, making a specialty of his grade Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep and Poland-China hogs. Mr. Willson is an independent Republican, and has been clerk of the school board of his district for many years. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M., the M. W. A., the A. O. U. W. Mr. Willson was married, December 1, 1881, at Spring Valley, to Abbie R. Rafferty, born in Frankford township, July 23, 1861, daughter of Francis and Helen (Weed) Rafferty, the former of whom was for many years a blacksmith in the old village of Frankford and died June 18, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Willson have been blessed with two sons. Clark M. is a young man of much promise. He was born February 14, 1883, attended the Spring Valley High School and then entered the Northwestern University at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1905 with a dental degree. He at once took up his profession in Spring Valley

and had practiced for three months, when he was stricken with appendicitis. He underwent an operation and since then has not entirely recovered his health. Harold F. was born November 26, 1895, and attends the Spring Valley High School. Harold is a bright boy and has taken a deep interest in agricultural affairs, making a specialty of poultry. Since he was a very small boy he owned a flock of Barred Plymouth Rock fowls, and has won many prizes. He now conducts a nice business in this line himself. His birds command an excellent price in the markets and his printed matter descriptive of his pens is most excellent. His chickens are of the best in shape and color and of a laying strain that is unsurpassed. The stock showed their quality by winning in 1910 four firsts, two seconds and one third at Spring Valley and Austin.

Samuel Willson was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, and married Charlotte Taylor, also a native of the same county. They located in Ohio in 1853, and in 1858 came to Winona county in this state. In 1862 they came to Frankford township, this county, and located on section 36. At that time but fifteen acres had been broken and a log house had been built. The rest of the land he broke and developed, built a frame house and other buildings and followed general farming until his death February 12, 1908. His wife died on January 14, 1896. They were the parents of four children: Orson, of North Dakota; Helen, wife of Marcus M. Chatfield, of Minot, N. D.; Herbert G., of Frankford township, and Cassius, of Hammond, Ore. Mrs. Willson is a member of the Eastern Star and of the Royal Neighbors. Clark M. is a Mason and Eastern Star.

Everard J. van Bronkhorst, successful dentist of Grand Meadow, was born in Austin, January 6, 1878, son of Anthony and Annetta (Riss) van Bronkhorst. He attended the graded schools of Austin and graduated from the Austin high school. In 1895 he entered the University of Minnesota and three years later graduated from the dental course in that institution. He first started practice at Lyle, in this county, and two years later entered into partnership with Alvin M. Lewis, of Austin. This partnership continued eight years and on August 1, 1908, Dr. Van Bronkhorst came to Grand Meadow, where he has since practiced his profession with marked success. He has a well-equipped office and the beautiful home which he has just completed in the village speaks for itself as to his success, taste and popularity. He is a member of the Mower County Dental Association and of the M. W. A., his political beliefs being embodied in the platform of the Republican party. The subject of this sketch married Louise Siebert, of Wells, Minn., and this union has been blessed with one son, Siebert A., born November 6, 1907. An-



SEYMOUR JOHNSON.

thony J. van Bronkhorst was born in Holland and after coming to America located in Forest Grove, Mich. Annetta Riss was also born in Holland, and came to Illinois when young. They first met in Austin and were here married. Anthony van Bronkhorst was a painter and paper hanger. He died June 21, 1909, and his wife passed away April 19, 1888, both being buried in Austin. They were the parents of four children: Everard J., Josie, Mattie and Henry F. Josie is the wife of Jesse Jones, of Austin; Mattie is the wife of Dr. A. E. Donker, of Forest Grove, Mich.; Henry F. is cashier for the Chicago Great Western at Rochester, Minn.

Walter Watson, one of the foremost farmers of Grand Meadow township, has resided in this county nearly twenty-four years, and during all that time has maintained an enviable record for honesty and fair dealing. He has a comfortable house which he erected several years ago, spacious outbuildings and sleek-looking stock, as well as a full complement of tools and machinery suited to general farming. The subject of this sketch was born in Fountain, Fillmore county, September 24, 1864, son of James and Sarah (Means) Watson, the former of whom was a native of Mishawaka, Ind., and the latter of Indianapolis, in the same state. They settled in Fillmore county in 1852. Walter was reared on his father's farm, attended the district schools, and after his marriage took up farming for himself on a rented farm. In 1887 he came to Mower county and purchased his present place of 240 acres, partly in Grand Meadow township and partly in Dexter township. He married Kate Schmidt, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Pider) Schmidt, and they have nine children: Zella, Eva, Nettie, Byron, Lloyd, Cora M. (deceased), Chester, Walter and Rachael. Zella is the wife of Stephen Brown and they have one daughter, Valora. Nettie is the wife of Elmer Young and they have one son, Harold.

Seymour Johnson, retired manufacturer and patentee of the well known Johnson harrows and breaking plows, has taken an active part in the upbuilding of the city. While he is a man of keen business intelligence, nevertheless a broad charity of thought and action has permeated his life, and often has he followed the line of upright and unselfish conduct when acts which the business world does not look upon as entirely dishonest might have resulted in his financial profit. In business life and in politics his influence has been for good, and it may truly be said that his life has been of real benefit to the world. He was born in Ringerike, Norway, December 29, 1841, and was but a year old when his father, Hans Johanson, died. His mother, Ingeborg Andersen, a woman of courage and pluck, came to America with her fatherless boys in 1855 and located in Waupun, Wis., living

there until 1892, when she came to Austin, lived with Seymour Johnson, and ended her days in December, 1893. The subject of this sketch came to America with his mother in 1855. He received his early education in the public schools, and by self study and attentive reading acquired a good education both in English and Norwegian. He also worked in a newspaper office in Wisconsin for a time, and this assisted in his English education. At an early age he learned the blacksmith trade. In 1862 he enlisted in the Union army, serving in Company A, Thirty-second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, until mustered out at the close of the war, May 10, 1865. He fought with Sherman in the Army of the Tennessee, and was with that army on its famous march to the sea, participating in all the battles of the Atlanta campaign. After being discharged at Prairie du Chien, May 10, 1865, he remained in Wisconsin and followed his trade as a blacksmith for a time. He came to Austin March 27, 1867, and started in the manufacture of farm implements, forming a copartnership with R. O. Hunt in the fall of 1867. In 1870 Mr. Hunt went to California and Mr. Johnson formed a copartnership with L. S. Mitchell for one year, after which he bought out Mr. Mitchell and formed a partnership with H. S. Smith. After Mr. Smith's death in 1893 the firm was continued under the name of Johnson & Smith and under the management of Mr. Johnson until November 1, 1900, when Mr. Johnson sold out to the heirs of H. S. Smith, and retired from business owing to ill health. Mr. Johnson served his city as recorder for one term, and as an alderman for several years, being elected on the Republican ticket, in the principles of which party Mr. Johnson is a firm believer. He was also a member of the charter commission of Austin. He has been through the chairs of the I. O. O. F., of which he is now a past noble grand and he is also a charter member and past commander of the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was married December 22, 1866, to Lena Johnson, of Waupun. This union has been blessed with two children: A. E. Johnson, who is cashier of the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank, of Blooming Prairie, and Stella L., who is the wife of Dr. O. H. Hegge, and a prominent club woman of Austin. The family faith is that of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Johnson is the only surviving charter member. The family residence is at 402 Mankato street and was erected in 1868, a large addition being constructed in 1880. Mr. Johnson has been a successful business man and owns considerable property in and around Austin. He was closely connected with the organization of the Citizens' National Bank, but sold out his interest in 1903. He is at present the president of the Austin Building and Loan Association and a director in the Farmers' and Merchants' State Bank, of Bloom-

ing Prairie. The daughter, Stella L., now Mrs. O. H. Hegge, is greatly interested in music and at various times has sung in all the leading choirs of Austin, being at present leader of the Lutheran church choir. She was born in Austin, graduated from the Austin high school, and being of a musical turn of mind studied music at home. She has taken considerable interest in club work, and is ex-president of the Art and Travel Club. She is at present president of the Floral Club, the third oldest women's club in the United States. Mrs. Hegge has taken great interest in church and benevolent work, and is president of the Lutheran Ladies' Aid Society, secretary of the Ladies' Auxiliary to St. Olav's Hospital, and one of the directors of the Austin Y. W. C. A.

John M. Wyckoff was born in the town of Chester, Morris county, New Jersey, October 7, 1827, the oldest of six children, and descended from one of the early colonial settlers of New Jersey. He was reared on the farm of his father, Henry H. Wyckoff, and then started farming for himself in Somerset county, New Jersey. In November, 1851, he married Henrietta Honeyman, daughter of James Honeyman. Mr. and Mrs. Wyckoff came to LeRoy township in April, 1856, and on the second of the following month Mr. Wyckoff laid claim to the northeast quarter of section 30, entering this land at the United States land office which at that time was located at Chatfield, Minn. In 1859 he bought the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, in the same town, from George Peck. In 1861 he sold to Milton Sadler, and settled in the old village of LeRoy. In 1864 he bought out the Rev. T. P. Ropes, on section 28, adjoining the old village of LeRoy. In 1868 he settled in LeRoy station, where he still resides. In March, 1868, at the earnest solicitation of F. M. Goodykoontz, the first lawyer to settle in LeRoy, he engaged with him in the law and real estate business, under the firm name of Goodykoontz & Wyckoff. In 1869 he purchased his partner's interest and continued the business alone, being admitted to the bar at Austin, Minn., September 21, 1870, before Hon. N. M. Donaldson, district judge. He was elected town clerk seven and justice of the peace five consecutive years in the early days of the township. He was chosen to the legislature of 1862 and later was elected county auditor, his term beginning March 1, 1879.

Rev. David Svennungsen, pastor of the United Norwegian Lutheran Congregation at LeRoy and of several other congregations in the neighborhood, was born in Winona, Minn., March 26, 1876, son of Stener and Divert (Frich) Svennungsen. The Rev. Stener Svennungsen came from Norway with his parents in 1848, when five years of age, and located at Muskego, Wis. In 1856 they removed to Chickasaw county, Iowa, being among the early

settlers there. He attended the Upper Iowa University, the Luther College, of Decorah, Iowa, and the Concordia Seminary, of St. Louis. He was then ordained in the Norwegian Lutheran Synod, and has since filled various pastorates, being now located at Sherwood, N. D. David received his education in the public schools, at the Decorah Institute in Iowa, St. Olaf's College at Northfield and the United Church Seminary of St. Anthony Park, St. Paul, graduating from the theological course in the latter institution in 1904. He was ordained to the ministry of the United Church at Albert Lea June 12 of the same year. His first pastorate was at Rugby, N. D. While there he also labored in the interests of the Good Samaritan Hospital, acting as financial secretary from the time it was founded. This is a very substantial structure, aggregating a cost of \$60,000, and is operated and owned by the Sheyenne Kreds Hospital Association of the United Church. In 1911 he received a call to the pastorate of the United Lutheran Church at LeRoy, and was installed February 26, his field including also Saterdal's congregation in Fillmore county and congregations at Cresco and Ridgeway in Iowa. Rev. Svennungsen was married October 26, 1904, to Carrie Groethe, daughter of O. M. and Guro (Tonjum) Groethe, who located in Mower county in 1865 and remained until 1902, when they moved to Elk Point, S. D. Rev. and Mrs. Svennungsen have three children: Rolf G., born August 1, 1905; Steinar D., born September 18, 1907, and David K., born January 3, 1910.

Nathan F. Banfield, vice-president and cashier of the First National Bank, of Austin, was born in West Roxbury, Mass., November 15, 1860. He is one of a family of six children. His parents, Everett C. and Anne S. (Fiske) Banfield, both descended from early New England families. He received his early education in the schools of his native place, in Adelphia Academy, Brooklyn, N. Y., in a private school in Washington, D. C., in Bates school, San Francisco and in Wolfeboro Academy, at Wolfeboro, N. H. Later he attended Phillips Academy, at Andover, Mass., and was a member of the class of 1879. He came to Austin to enter the employ of the First National Bank in March, 1879, at the age of eighteen years. To him promotions came with the passing years: In 1882 he became assistant cashier, a director in January, 1884, in 1885 cashier and in 1903 was elected vice-president. He served for some years as treasurer of the city of Austin and as a member of the board of education. He was married July 5, 1882, to Nellie Sterling, daughter of James M. Sterling, one of the early settlers of Austin. To them were born seven children: Nathan F., Jr., Helen S., Annie F., Everett C., Richard S., Gert-rude S. and Arthur F. Nathan F., Jr., received his education at the Austin high school and the University of Minnesota. He

entered the employ of the First National Bank of Austin in August, 1904, and became a director of that bank in January, 1909. Helen S. was graduated from Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in the class of 1908. Annie F. died in January, 1891, at the age of three years. Everett C. is at Amherst College, Amherst, Mass., a member of the class of 1912. The three younger children are in the Austin schools, Richard graduating in the class of 1911.

A. J. Hayes, cashier of the First State Bank, of LeRoy, was born in the village where he now resides June 18, 1873, son of the pioneers, Wentworth and Eliza A. (Bishop) Hayes. He received his early schooling in the village schools of LeRoy and then attended the Pillsbury Academy, at Owatonna. After completing his course at that institution he entered the employ of his father's store, remaining six years. In 1901 he became assistant cashier of the First State Bank, and his merit soon secured his promotion to his present position. He is a popular member of the I. O. O. F. and of the M. W. A. Mr. Hayes married Tennie Griffith, and this union has been blessed with three children, Bruce, Loueta and Wentworth.

Wentworth Hayes, a retired business man of LeRoy, has taken an active interest in the affairs of the community, and his sterling integrity and uprightness have won for him an enviable place in the esteem of his fellow citizens. Of him it has often been said that his life has been an exemplification of the theory that absolute honesty in business brings the highest meed of success, even in these days when dishonesty seems so rampant in public and private life. Wentworth Hayes was born in Alton, Belknap county, New Hampshire, May 23, 1831, son of Joseph and Betsy (Brewster) Hayes, natives of New York, and prominent farmers in that state. The subject of this sketch received his early education in the district schools of Alton, and then entered the Wolfsborough Academy, at Wolfsborough, N. H. After graduation from this academy he entered the employ of a shoe factory, and became so expert a cutter that he saved his employer from one to one and a half cents on every pair of shoes made. Mr. Hayes continued in this line until 1854, when he came to LeRoy and located in the old village. He preëmpted 160 acres of timber land and later purchased two other quarter sections, making at that time 480 acres. In 1862 he entered into contract with the United States government for carrying mail, and for nearly four years conducted the stage routes from Decorah to Osage and from Decorah to Preston and Chatfield. Eleven months before his four years' contract had expired, he sold out, making \$1,000 bonus on the contract aside from clearing thirty-five per cent on his equipment. It is worthy of note that while in this business

he had a stage coach imported from Concord, N. H., at a cost of \$1,000. After selling his stage route he opened a store in the old village of LeRoy, and when LeRoy station was opened he moved his place of business to the new location. On January 19 a year and a half later his store was burned, entailing a loss of \$13,000, with only \$2,000 insurance. This caused him to sell some of his land for the purpose of rebuilding at once. He successfully continued in this business until 1898, when he retired from active life. He has since spent his time in retirement, making his home in a beautiful residence in LeRoy which he erected. Aside from his mercantile business he dealt largely in farms and real estate, and also did a large stock and grain business. He was instrumental in the organization of the First State Bank, of LeRoy, and later became its president, holding that position until failing health caused his retirement from same. The subject of this sketch was married August 18, 1858, to Eliza A. Bishop, who was born May 16, 1839, at Conneaut, Ashtabula county, Ohio, daughter of William and Lucy Bishop, natives of Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes have seven children: Carrie M. is now Mrs. Charles Webber, of Austin; Hattie E. is now Mrs. Horace Dubendorff, of California; Lillie B. is wife of John Stephan, merchant and postmaster at Waltham; Alice A. is now Mrs. Fred Hall, of Parsons, Kan.; Albert J. is cashier of the First State Bank, of LeRoy; Iva A. is now Mrs. Frank Thornhill, of Spring Valley; Bessie is now Mrs. Robert Woodburn, of Hampton, Iowa. The members of the family are highly thought of in the respective communities wherein they have made their homes.

Hoyt A. Avery, a leading dentist of Austin, was born in Ripon, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, August 20, 1856, son of Alonzo and Elizabeth (Gleason) Avery. He was brought by his parents to Mower county in 1859, and went with them to Rochester, in Olmsted county, in 1863. There he spent his boyhood and attended the public schools. In 1876 and 1877 he attended the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, taking a dental course. Afterward he came to Austin, where he had previously worked a few months, and purchased the dental office appliances and business of Dr. John Rabe. Since then he has successfully practiced his profession here, winning wide favor by his skill and geniality. Dr. Avery has served as alderman of the city of Austin from the second ward two different terms, and has just started on his fifth term as a member of the Austin board of education, of which body he has been president for several years. The subject of this sketch was married December 29, 1881, to Florence N. Judson, and this union has been blessed with four children: Everett J. lives in Chicago. Margaret R. lives at home and teaches art in the Austin schools. She graduated from the Austin high school,

studied under a private tutor two years, and then attended the School of Applied Art for Women at New York city. Elizabeth S. lives at home, and Kenneth R. lives in Argentine Republic, South America. The family faith is that of the Congregational church. Dr. Avery owns a stock farm of 480 acres in Oakland and London townships, which he personally supervises, although he has a local manager. On this place he makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred registered Percheron horses for the market.

Alonzo Avery, a pioneer, was born in New York state July 14, 1830. He married Elizabeth Gleason, a native of the same state, and together they came to Wisconsin, locating first in Green Lake county. Later they went to Ripon, in Fond du Lac county, in the same state, and in 1859 came to Mower county. Here they homesteaded land in Grand Meadow township, and remained there till 1862. In 1862 Alonzo Avery joined the Union army and served in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. He was orderly sergeant, and received his discharge in 1865. He then returned to Rochester, in Olmsted county, and there farmed until 1899, when he removed to Humbolt, Iowa. After his wife's death, in December, 1901, the subject of this sketch moved to Fremont, Mich., where he purchased city property and where he now resides at the good old age of eighty years.

Jesse M. Larrabee was born in Ypsilanti, Mich., April 7, 1840. The first twelve years of his life were spent in his Michigan home, at the end of which time he moved with his parents to Winnebago county, Illinois, where he received his early education in the district schools. He further advanced his studies by four terms in the Durand Seminary, after which he entered the Bryant & Stratton Business College, graduating in 1863. After leaving Chicago Mr. Larrabee moved to Dubuque, Iowa, and engaged in bookkeeping until 1865, subsequently moving to Ossian, Iowa, and engaging in the grain business. In May the following year he moved to Conover, Iowa, where he continued in the grain business until 1867. In August of that year he came to LeRoy, of which village he was designed to become so prominent a citizen. Here he built the first grain warehouse in the new village, buying the first load of grain that came into LeRoy. In 1874 he engaged in the drug business on the corner of Main and Broadway, which business he conducted with success, in connection with his grain business, until the time of his death, February 21, 1907. In 1886, in connection with his other interests, he engaged in the lumber business, which he successfully continued for a period of three years, after which he sold to D. C. Corbitt. Mr. Larrabee was a member of the Masons and of other fraternal organizations.

Andrew Mahoney was born in Ireland and married Dora

Boyd, a native of the same country. They came to America at an early day and located in Wisconsin, from which state Andrew enlisted in the Civil war, serving three years and three months in Company D, Third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. During this period he was wounded in the eye by the explosion of a shell at the battle of Beverly Ford. After being treated in a hospital for a time he was discharged and returned to Wisconsin. In 1865 he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres of land in section 8, LeRoy township, to which he afterward added other property in sections 7 and 8. This land he broke, grubbed and cultivated, and laid the first stone wall in LeRoy. He followed farming until his death, October 1, 1902, and since that date his widow has taken up her home in LeRoy village.

Gilbert Mahoney was born in LeRoy township November 12, 1869, and received his early education in the schools of district 59. After attaining the years of manhood, he spent one winter in Mississippi, and upon his return purchased eighty acres in section 17, LeRoy township, later purchasing eighty acres adjoining, making a quarter section in all. On this he has carried on general farming, and has erected some excellent buildings. He has a modern place, and prides himself on his beautiful lawns and clean roadways. At the present time he is erecting a large upright barn, 36 by 48 feet. In addition to farming, Mr. Mahoney has interested himself in cement work, and is a great believer in that substance as a future substitute for wood and stone. He manufactures cement fence posts, and it is worthy of note that his invention of a cement culvert has been so highly satisfactory that over seventy-five have been placed in LeRoy township, and other towns are adopting the same method. Mr. Mahoney is a Republican in politics, and has served in several public offices, including the positions of supervisor three years and town chairman five years. He was married March 8, 1894, to Anna Thompson, and this union has resulted in seven children, Nellie, Esther, Emily, Harland J., Eva, Raymond A. and Nina. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

F. L. Hill, now deceased, was a substantial farmer of Red Rock township, and his death was a distinct loss to the community. He came to Mower county in the middle eighties, and farmed until his death, May 29, 1909, at the age of forty-nine years. He was married in 1883 to Julia Bain, born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Safford) Bain. Five children were born to this marriage, Elizabeth, Ida, Maude, Howard and Lester B. Elizabeth is the wife of George Retting and Ida is the wife of James Leslie. Mr. Hill was a member of the A. O. U. W. at Austin.

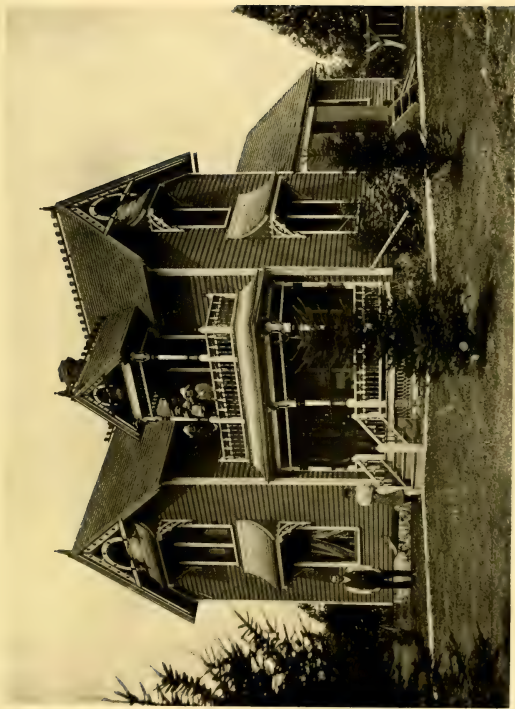
Arne Anderson, a well-liked farmer and threshing machine

operator of Racine township, was born in Norway, June 15, 1865, son of Hans and Osabel Anderson, who brought him to America in 1867. The family landed at Quebec and then came to Wisconsin, where they remained two years. Later they came to Adams township, in this county, and here Hans worked on the railroad four years. Then Hans purchased a farm in Marshall township and there farmed until his death, in 1910, his widow, the mother of Arne, still making her home in that township. Arne was educated in the country schools, and assisted his father on a farm until twenty-three years of age, at which time he started in life for himself by working out three years. Later he rented land eight years. Then he bought land in Marshall township where he lived. Subsequently he bought and sold land in Marshall, Clayton, Racine and Sargeant townships. He now owns 326 acres in sections 5 and 6, Racine township, 120 acres in Pleasant Valley. He has followed general farming and stock raising and has made a specialty of threshing, having owned in turn five different steam outfits. Mr. Anderson keeps fifty head of Shorthorn cattle for dairy purposes and sells cream to the Grand Meadow creamery in which he is one of the stockholders. He also has a fine drove of swine, and keeps a dozen horses for farm work and driving. He has been manager of the Farmers' Threshing Company for six years. The subject of this sketch is an independent voter, was supervisor of the town of Clayton two years and a member of the school board of his district for six years. He was treasurer of the Bear Creek church four years. Arne Anderson was married in 1894 to Milia Bohn, of Grand Meadow, and they have six children: Harry, Theodore, Arthur, Melvin, William and Myrtle.

Jens P. Anderson, a well known farmer of LeRoy, was born in Denmark, May 1, 1852, son of Andrew Christianson and Anna E. Jenson, both natives of Denmark, the former dying in 1867 and the latter in 1878. Jens received a good public school education in Denmark, and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-seven he crossed the briny deep, and landed in New York July 26, 1879, coming directly to Clayton township, Mower county, where he worked out for a year and a half. Then he rented a quarter section in Clayton township, and in 1886 purchased it. Here he continued to carry on general farming many years, repairing all the old buildings and erecting new ones, adding to his land from time to time until he owned 440 acres all in one farm. In 1898 he sold a part of this land, and exchanged the remainder for his present farm of 120 acres in sections 34 and 35, LeRoy township. Aside from this he also owns a fifty-acre farm in section 29, which he rents. While in Clayton township Mr. Anderson served as road overseer and on the school board, of

which he was treasurer. He has been twice married. His first wife, Mary Larson, whom he married February 20, 1875, passed to the great beyond December 14, 1893, leaving five children: Annie, now Mrs. Iver Uglum, of Clayton township; Ella, now Mrs. Peter Hanson, of Marshall township; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Simon Boe, of Clayton township; Etta, who lives at home, a graduate of LeRoy high school, and Mary, of Clayton township. May 5, 1897, Mr. Anderson was married to Mrs. Sarah (Bowden) Hague. She was the daughter of Ernest and Betty (Hague) Bowden, natives of Derbyshire, England, who came to America in 1857 and located in Lowell, Mass., the father dying January 10, 1879, and the mother February 14, 1907. John Hague, first husband of Mrs. Sarah Bowden Anderson, died December 30, 1893, leaving one son, Roy W., who now lives with his mother and stepfather. Jens P. and Sarah Bowden Anderson have been blessed with two bright children, Florence and Alice, both of whom are at home and attending school.

William E. Daily, merchant of Dexter, of which village he is at the present time serving as mayor, was born in this county, having first seen the light of day November 13, 1868, son of Ziba and Jane C. (Vargeson) Daily. William E. attended the district school, and remained on the home farm until seventeen years of age, at which time he entered the employ of C. Smith & Son, to learn the trade of tinner. Two years later he entered the employ of E. S. Fonda, hardware dealer at Staceyville, Iowa. After three years at this work he went to Sutton, and purchased grain and managed a creamery in connection with conducting a general store ten years. In 1900 he came to Dexter and purchased the S. A. Sorenson stock of hardware. In the fall of 1910 he bought out Reed & Noyes, and combined it with his former line. His business now consists of hardware, farm implements, furniture and harnesses, all under one roof, his establishment being the most extensive of its kind in Mower county. Mr. Daily served as treasurer of his school district seven years before assuming his present position. He is past master of Dexter Lodge, No. 253, A. F. & A. M., and is a past worthy patron of Dexter Chapter, No. 175, O. E. S. The subject of this sketch married Mattie Penney, daughter of William and Hannah (Halsey) Penney, and to this union have been born four children: Marguerite, Alice, Florence and William E., Jr. Mrs. Daily was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, August 24, 1866. Mr. Daily is a stockholder in the First State Bank, of Dexter; manager and stockholder of the Dexter Telephone Company, of Dexter; president of the Dexter Commercial Club, and is also interested in other enterprises. His home in the village, which he purchased from Peter Vandenvoer, is a model of comfort and convenience, and in addition to this



W. E. DAILY'S RESIDENCE.



GEORGE I. DAILY AND FAMILY.

he owns nine lots about his home and three lots elsewhere in the village.

George I. Daily, chairman of LeRoy township, was born on the farm where he now lives July 18, 1858, son of Ziba B. and Jane C. (Vargeson) Daily, the pioneers. As a baby he spent a year in Boone county, Indiana, but was brought back to this county and here spent his boyhood, attending the public schools and receiving instruction in farming from his father. After attaining the years of manhood, he spent three years away from home, first as surveyor along the Northern Pacific line and then as a clerk in the First National Bank, of Livingston, Mont. Subsequently he spent a season on the home farm, and then went to Clark county, South Dakota, where he preëmpted a quarter section and remained two years. After this he again returned to Minnesota, and purchased 200 acres in Oakdale township, Howard county, Iowa. To this he later added eighty acres, and on this tract of 280 acres he farmed some twelve years. After selling this farm he came to Mower county and bought 160 acres in Adams township. A year later he purchased a similar tract in Howard county, Iowa, and there remained a year and a half. Then he purchased 130 acres of the old farm in LeRoy township, and has since carried on general farming here. Mr. Daily is a Republican in politics, and is now serving his third year in his present office. Before this, he was supervisor for two years, and he has been a member of the school board many terms. He belongs to the A. F. & A. M. and to the M. W. A. George I. Daily was married April 16, 1888, to Adella McCulloch, born at Decorah, Iowa, April 17, 1865, daughter of John and Jenette (Garfield) McCulloch, early settlers of Winneshiek county, Iowa, the former of whom died December 5, 1906, and the latter November 5, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Daily have six children, Leonard D., Melvin Z., Ethel, George B., Ruth E. and David I., all of whom, except the two oldest, are at home. Leonard D. is assistant cashier in the First National Bank, of Milford, Iowa, and Melvin Z. is bookkeeper of the First National Bank, at Montevideo, Minn.

Ziba B. Daily, now deceased, was for many years one of the substantial residents of LeRoy township. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in the town of North Morland, in what is now Wyoming county. His grandparents were natives of Rhode Island, and his grandfather, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, received a land grant in Pennsylvania for valuable services rendered his country. When the subject of this sketch was seventeen years of age he engaged with a tanner to learn the trade, engaging in that occupation until 1852, when he moved to Boone county, Indiana. In 1855 he continued his migra-

tion, going by rail to Galena, thence by boat to Lansing, Iowa, and then overland to Waukon in the same state. In the summer of that year he started for Minnesota, in order to find a suitable place to locate. He came by stage as far as Caremona, Fillmore county, thence on foot to Chatfield, then via stage to Winona. From there he walked to Brownsville, and subsequently returned to Waukon. In September of that year he came to Mower county and entered a claim in section 34, in what is now known as LeRoy township. The ground was mostly covered with brush. The first winter he spent with a Mr. Armstrong who lived near. The following spring he built a log house on his claim, and lived therein until 1860. With the failure of crops he became discouraged and decided to return to Indiana, so with a sturdy pair of oxen and a wagon the family made the trip to Boone county, and there remained a year. In 1861 they came back to the claim in Mower county, and built a large log house which served as the family home until 1883. In that year he built a comfortable home which is still standing. Mr. Daily was married August 1, 1855, to Jane C. Vargeson, who was born in Sharon, Mich. Nine children blessed this union: Daniel Z., who died in 1888; George I., who is on the old homestead; John F., who died in 1899; Lewis M., a grocer at LeRoy; Charles M., who farms in the old town of LeRoy; William E., of Dexter; Milton, who is a physician in Sioux City, Iowa; Otis H., who is in the hardware business in LeRoy, and Mertello D., of the old town of LeRoy. Mr. Daily was chairman of the board of supervisors for many years, and also served in other positions of public and private trust and honor. He was a man of even temperament, and his extensive reading gave him wide information as to the progress of the world, both ancient and modern.

Hans M. Chrest, a highly respected citizen of Bennington township, was born at Tromso, Norway, December 26, 1850, son of Christian Hanson and Anna C. Nicholason. He received his early education in Norway, and there remained until fifteen years of age, when he came to America and located in Kendall county, Illinois, where he worked out for four years. Then he rented farms until 1872, and subsequently came to this county and purchased 160 acres in the southwest quarter of section 26. This land he broke and improved, erected a fine home and suitable outbuildings, and planted a beautiful grove of trees, consisting of evergreens, poplar and maple. On this place he now conducts general farming, making a specialty of Durham cattle and Norman horses. In 1909 he erected a new barn, 56x44. Mr. Chrest is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery and the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator, both at Ostrander. At one time he was secretary of the Lutheran church in his neighborhood,

and he also served for several terms as treasurer of his school district.

Jacob Ericksen was born in Norway and there married Anna C. Nicholason, the widow of Christian Hanson. They came to America in 1875, located in Bennington township seven years, then went to Marshall county, this state, and took a homestead of 160 acres. Mr. Ericksen died in July, 1907, and his wife is still living at the age of eighty-eight years. Christian Hanson and Anna C. Nicholason have three children: Hans M. Chrest; Severt, deceased, and Christ A., who died in infancy. Jacob Ericksen and Anna C. Nicholason had four children: Hannah M., Jacob A., both deceased, and Christ E. and Donald N., twins, now of Marshall county.

Gilbert J. Gilbertson is one of the foremost men of Grand Meadow township, where he has resided since 1872. He is a pleasing gentleman to meet, a ready conversationalist and a man of considerable importance in the community. He was born in Norway, December 3, 1852, and came to America with his parents in 1853, settling near Madison, Wis. Two years later they moved to Bostwick Valley, La Crosse county, and there lived several years. In 1862 John Gilbertson, the father, enlisted in Company E, Sixteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war, seeing much active service and receiving wounds which impaired his health for many years. In 1872 the family came to Grand Meadow township and settled in section 11, erecting a log cabin in which they lived for a time. Gilbert's early life was spent on the farm of his father, which in 1881 he purchased from his father, and where he now resides. He is now serving his fifth term as town supervisor, and has been school treasurer for many terms. He married Betsy Lewison, and they have seven children: Mabel, Clara, Arthur, Nora, Nettie, Muril and Elmer. Clara is the wife of Rudolf Mehl.

Stephen Harrison, a veteran of the Civil war and retired farmer, has lived in the village of LeRoy since 1894, and has identified himself with its official life. He was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, November 16, 1839, son of Samuel and Catherine (Fellows) Harrison, also natives of Pennsylvania. The family moved to Wisconsin in 1855, and there located on a farm, the father dying in 1873 and the mother in 1891. Stephen received his education in the public schools, and then followed farming with his father until 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, Thirty-fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in which he saw service ten months, being dismissed at the end of that time by reason of illness. He then returned home, and in the fall of 1864 went to Kenosha county, Wisconsin. In 1871 he came to Howard county, Iowa, purchased 160 acres of wild land in Oakdale town-

ship, broke and developed the land, erected a pleasant home and suitable outbuildings, and followed farming until 1894, when he rented his farm and came to LeRoy, where the year previous he had built the first house in what is known as Sweet's addition; then returned to his farm and remained one year, after which he sold it and returned to his home in LeRoy, where he has since resided. He has been assessor of LeRoy township three years and has also served as clerk one and one-half years. In Oakdale township he served on the township board nine years and on the school board many terms. Aside from his real estate holdings, he owns stock in the LeRoy Telephone Company. The subject of this sketch was married August 21, 1864, at Lynn, Walworth county, Wisconsin, to Caroline E. Rowe, who was born in Onondaga county, New York, February 6, 1839, daughter of Lucien and Lucy (Stillwell) Rowe, natives of New York state, who were early settlers in Michigan. Lucien Rowe died in 1849, and his wife passed away in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison have three children: Harvey W. has a small fruit farm just outside the city limits of LeRoy, and is the father of four children: Earl R., Harold O., Lloyd E. and Ethel A. Maurice A. farms in Chester township, Howard county, Iowa, and has one child, Geneva I. Florence L. is the wife of J. P. Jensen, and they have five children: Harry W., Arnold E., Benjamin A., Merrill F. and Florence Lauretta.

Edward W. Dorr, postmaster and druggist at Dexter, was born in Austin, Minn., May 17, 1877, youngest son of E. C. Dorr. He received his education in the public schools and in the Austin high school, afterward entering the Minnesota Institute of Pharmacy at Minneapolis, graduating in 1893. He was then matriculated in the Northwestern University, of Chicago, and graduated in 1896 with the degree of P. H. G. Thus equipped, he clerked in Minneapolis about three years, and in 1900 came to Dexter and started in the drug business for himself. A year later he was appointed postmaster and has since continued in this position, being ably assisted by his father. He is a Republican in politics, and has served as village recorder of Dexter, being at the present time the secretary of the Dexter Commercial Club. He is worshipful master of Dexter Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and also affiliates with the B. P. O. E., the M. W. A., the B. A. Y., the Eastern Star and the Pilgrim Knights. The subject of this sketch was married November 29, 1899, to Lulu Frase, of Dexter, and two children have blessed this union: Edward M. and Velva C. The family faith is that of the Methodist church.

E. C. Dorr, for six years mayor of the city of Austin, now living in retirement with his son in the village of Dexter, Minn., was born in Columbia county, New York, November 4, 1835, and



EDWARD C. DORR.

received an academy education. At the age of twenty-two years, in 1857, he came west to Minnesota, and was located in Olmsted county at the outbreak of the Civil war, during which conflict he served two and one-half years in the medical department of the provost marshal of the first district of Minnesota. In 1866 he came to Austin, and engaged in the drug business until 1898, when he sold out his interests to K. O. Wold, who had been his partner for many years. He still calls Austin his home, however, and owns two residences and a store building in the city. After selling out his store he served two years as deputy revenue collector and three years as internal revenue agent. While at Austin he served on the board of education eight years. He is a Mason and a member of the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was married to Emma L. Smith, who died December 12, 1907. They were the parents of three children: Marie E., now deceased; Marjorie E., now Mrs. Hans E. Enes, of Henderson, Minn., and Edward W., druggist and postmaster of Dexter.

T. M. Hagerty, for fourteen years clerk of Bennington township, is one of the progressive and popular men of the community. He was born in Houston county, Minnesota, September 15, 1861, son of William and Sabina (Reilly) Hagerty, natives of Ireland. He received his education in Houston county, and came to this county with his parents in 1877, engaging in farming with his father until his father's death. Then until 1894 he was in partnership with his brothers in farming the family acres. In that year the property was divided, and T. M. selected the 240 acres in Bennington township, where he erected a fine home and buildings, and where he now carries on general farming, making a specialty of raising Polled Angus cattle. Mr. Hagerty is an independent voter, and in addition to the office mentioned above has been assessor of Clayton township eight years and clerk of his school district a number of terms. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of C. and the M. W. A., and is a stockholder in the hall of the latter society at Grand Meadow. The subject of this sketch was married May 22, 1895, at Grand Meadow, to Julia Duggan, born in Houston county, Minnesota, December 24, 1865, daughter of Daniel and Margaret (Welch) Duggan, natives of Ireland. This union has resulted in three children: Sabina Margaret Lucille, born February 2, 1898; Julia M., born November 15, 1903, and died March 7, 1904, and Mary F., born February 24, 1906.

William Hagerty was born in Ireland and married Sabina Reilly, a native of the same place. They came to America in 1848, and William worked in the mines of Pennsylvania and Ohio until 1854, when he came to Minnesota and took a homestead in section 17, township 102, range 4. He broke and developed this

land and followed farming until 1877, when he came with his family to Mower county, purchasing three farms of 240 acres each, two in Clayton and one in Bennington. These farms he conducted with the assistance of his sons until his death, May 14, 1885. His widow died February 8, 1911.

Daniel Duggan was born in Ireland and married Margaret Welch, a native of the same country. They came to America in 1848, lived in Houston county until 1877, and then came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres in Clayton township. In 1881 they retired and moved to La Crosse, where Daniel died October 29, 1907, and his wife September 29, 1907.

Jacob S. Bowers, deceased, was for many years an honored resident of Lyle township, where his integrity and honor will long be remembered. His friends mingled high respect with their intimate liking of the man, and his influence was ever for the good. His was a life well spent, and his duty in earth's battles were faithfully performed. He was born in Canada, December 28, 1829, where he received his early education and grew to manhood, learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed in connection with conducting a sawmill. May 15, 1849, he married Elizabeth Quickfall, born in Lincolnshire, England, February 7, 1829. She came to America with her parents at two years of age, locating in New York state, where they remained for six years, after which they removed to Canada, where she was educated and grew to maturity. In 1860 Mr. and Mrs. Bowers came to the United States and located in Lemar, in the northwestern part of Missouri, remaining until the following spring, when they moved to Fayette county, Iowa, two years later going to Osage, Iowa, where they remained for eight years, after which they came to Minnesota and located in Lyle township, Mower county, where Mr. Bowers purchased 200 acres in section 17. Like the other arrivals of that period, he broke and improved the land and brought his farm to a high degree of excellence, at the same time following his trade as a carpenter. He died May 17, 1908. To Mr. and Mrs. Bowers were born seven children: Norman S., the oldest, died at Superior, Wis., December 15, 1909; Mrs. Hanna L. Haney was born in May, 1852; Harriett E. was born in June, 1854, and married M. E. Vareo; Milton E. was born in August, 1856; Charles was born August 8, 1858; Alberta was born in March, 1864, and married B. V. Wilder; Wilhelmina M. was born in May, 1867, and married F. Hotson. Mr. Bowers was a Democrat and a Mason, and was buried with Masonic honors. Mrs. Bowers, who is past eighty-two years of age, is a remarkable example of all that is sweet and beautiful in old age. Aside from a disabled hip, as the result of an accident, she is sprightly and

bright, retaining all her faculties. She reads without glasses and keeps well abreast of the times in every way.

Martin B. Johnson, a respected and substantial resident of Grand Meadow, was born in Chittenden county, Vermont, October 28, 1837, son of William and Mary (Keefe) Johnson, natives respectively of England and Wales. Martin came to Mower county with his parents and brother, John L., in 1855, and settled in Brownsdale. August 19, 1862, he enlisted in the Union army, and served in Company C, Ninth Volunteer Infantry, became corporal and was bass drummer for the regiment, serving until the close of the war, when he was discharged at St. Paul, in August, 1865. He then returned to Mower county and took up land in Udolpho township, where he engaged in farming for five years. Then he removed to Brownsdale. Soon afterward he was appointed deputy sheriff, and served for fourteen consecutive years under R. O. Hall, H. B. Cory, Allan Mollison and Nicholas NicholSEN. He also engaged in the land and collection business with E. J. Stimson for fifteen years at about the same time. In March, 1908, he moved to Grand Meadow. Mr. Johnson was married September 19, 1861, to Mary A. Hines, of Red Rock township, who died April 3, 1909, leaving two children: Albert, of Grand Meadow, and May, who keeps house for her father. Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics and a member of the G. A. R. post. He served continuously as marshal of Brownsdale from 1875 to 1908, with the exception of five years. He is now justice of the peace. For five years he served in the lower house of the Minnesota legislature in an appointive position. He has also served in many other positions of public and private trust and honor.

Thomas A. Hotson is one of the venerable and honored citizens of Mower county, ripe in years and wisdom, and filled with that tolerance and gentleness that time alone brings to the noble souls of the earth. His good wife has proven an able helpmeet, and hand in hand they are spending the late afternoon of life together, loved by all who know them. Mr. Hotson was born in Norfolk, England, December 16, 1829. When twenty years of age, in 1849, he was united in marriage with Esther Guttridge, who was also born in Norfolk, England, April 6, 1829. They remained in Norfolk until 1854, when they left the bonny shores of England and came to America, sailing from Liverpool, October 6, and landing at New Orleans, after six weeks and four days' passage. They first located in St. Louis, where he was engaged in a rolling mill for a short time; thence going to St. Clair county, Illinois, where he purchased an interest in a brick yard, which he operated for one season. After this he engaged in farming in St. Clair county, Illinois, until 1862, when he came to Mower county.

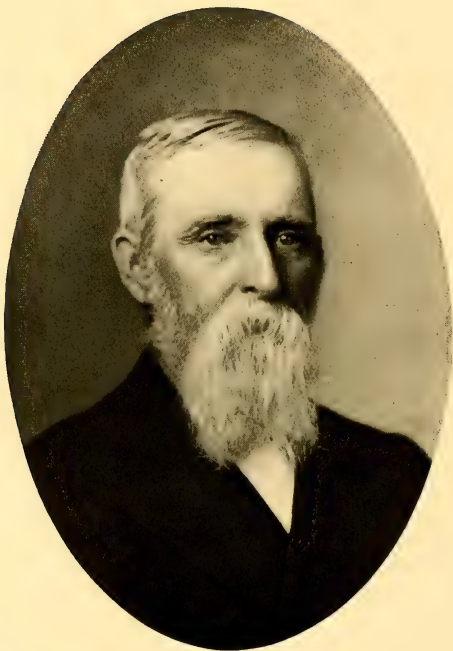
and purchased 160 acres of wild land in section 10, Lyle township, only four acres of this land being broken, and preëmption shanty erected, which constituted the improvements at the time of purchase. He broke and developed the rest of this land, bringing it to a high degree of cultivation, erecting a fine house and outbuildings. On this farm he has since continued general agricultural operations. Mr. and Mrs. Hotson have been blessed with six children: Atkins, Thomas, Fred, William, Emir and Emer.

Fred Hotson, third son of Thomas A. Hotson, was born in St. Clair county, Illinois, March 15, 1859. He came to Mower county with his parents at three years of age, and here received his education, remaining with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he purchased a 175-acre farm, on section 16, Lyle township, where he has erected fine buildings and improved the land, and now carries on general farming. He was married September 25, 1888, to Wilhemena M. Bowers, and they have two children: Mae E., born December 11, 1889, a teacher; Vance B., born September 23, 1890, who is at home on the farm with his father. Mr. Hotson is a Republican and belongs to the Masons and the M. W. A.

Herman T. Julson, an industrious farmer of Grand Meadow township, was born in Wisconsin, July 5, 1872, son of Ulrick and Rachel Julson. He lived with them in Wisconsin and Iowa, and came to Grand Meadow township with them in 1876 as a boy of four years. Here he was reared to agricultural pursuits and attended the public schools. He now owns the old homestead of eighty acres in section 36, and also eighty acres adjoining in section 35. Here he successfully carries on general farming in a scientific manner. He married Ida Olson, daughter of Nels Olson.

Ulrick Julson, now deceased, was born in Norway, December 8, 1821, and was married there. In 1848 he came to America, being eighteen weeks crossing the ocean, and here took up the trade of farmer, although he had been a tailor in the old country. After living in Wisconsin about twenty-five years he went to Iowa, and after staying there three years came to Mower county in 1876, and settled in section 36. As there was no building of any kind on the land at that time he lived six weeks with a neighbor named Harley Peck while he built a shack for his family. Before the winter set in he had a frame house completed. Ulrick Julson died July 25, 1902, and his wife, October 2, 1902.

Isaac H. Every, retired farmer of LeRoy township and veteran of the Civil war, was born in Delaware county, New York, December 18, 1837, son of Hiram and Hannah (Stoughenburg) Every. He received a public school education, attended the Delaware Academy one year, took up farming with his father and learned the carpenter's trade. December 18, 1861, he



ISAAC H. EVERY.



MRS. ISAAC H. EVERY.

enlisted in the Union army at Delphi, Delaware county, and was sworn in at Newburgh, Orange county, New York, serving in the Eighth Independent New York Battery until the fall of 1864, when he was honorably discharged at Norfolk, Va., on account of ill health. He participated in all the battles of his regiment up to that time and was neither wounded nor captured, although his health was so impaired that he was able to do but little work for several years thereafter. In 1868 he came to Minnesota and for two years followed his trade, living in the village of LeRoy. At the end of this time he purchased 160 acres of wild land in Howard county, Iowa, from Henry Spencer, who had obtained it from the government. Mr. Every cleared and broke this land, erected some fine buildings and followed general farming, making a specialty of breeding Shorthorn cattle. In 1906 he rented his farm and purchased his present home of eleven acres in section 34, LeRoy township, where he now lives. Before coming here Mr. Every served for several years as a member of the board of trustees of Oakdale township, Howard county. He also served on the school board a number of years. He is a staunch Republican, a member of the G. A. R. and a communicant of the Presbyterian church. The subject of this sketch was married October 30, 1867, to Esther A. Ferguson, born in Delaware county, New York, January 8, 1847, daughter of William and Nancy (McArthur) Ferguson, the former of whom died in October, 1874, and the latter May 8, 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Every were the parents of five children: Flora E., W. F., Arthur H., Martha M. and Minnie B. Flora E. was born October 30, 1869, married W. E. Dennis, and resides in Corydon, Iowa. W. F. was born April 11, 1872, and is now general claim agent for the Northern Pacific, with an office in St. Paul. Arthur H. was born July 2, 1876, and is district claim agent for the Northern Pacific, with an office at Glendive, Mont. Martha M., the twin sister of Arthur H., was born July 2, 1876, married Dr. C. J. Maerchlein, and lives in Lidgerwood, N. D. Minnie M. was born September 29, 1879, and married Perry Hanson, a general merchant at Carver, Minn.

Jacob Every, grandfather of Isaac H., was an early settler of Delaware county, New York, and there built and conducted a saw, grist and flouring mill. Hiram Every, father of Isaac H., was born in Delaware county, and at the age of fourteen learned the miller's trade, which he followed in Delaware county all his days. He died in Delaware county in 1897, and his wife, whose maiden name was Hannah Stoughenburg, died in 1899.

George Howard has taken an active interest in public affairs, and is one of the successful and prosperous citizens of Lyle township. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, April 25, 1867, son of Addison and Adeline (Sprague) Howard. He came

westward with his parents at ten years of age, receiving his education at the Woodbury school, Lyle township, and working on the farm with his father. After leaving school he became a partner of his father and his brother Charles, and the three conducted the farm until the father's death, in 1900, since which date he and his brother have continued to develop the place, adding acres and buildings. They own several hundred acres, including the home farm of 360 acres, and also other places. Mr. Howard has recently purchased a farm of eighty acres, to which he has moved, in section 33, his brother having retired and moved to the village. The home farm is in sections 29 and 32, and the other land the brothers own is mostly in these two sections. George Howard is a Republican in politics, and has served as chairman of the board of supervisors of Lyle township for twelve years, to the credit of himself and the honor of the community. He has also served as clerk of the Woodbury school for several years. He holds stock in the London Creamery in Freeborn county, and in the Lyle Telephone Company of Lyle. The subject of this sketch was married September 5, 1905, to Gertrude De Remer, and to this union four children have been born: Lon, Carroll, Asa and Charles. The family faith is that of the Methodist church.

Addison Howard and Adeline Sprague, his wife, were natives of New York state, and came westward in 1877, locating in Lyle township, where they purchased 160 acres of land, in the southwest quarter of section 29. To this they made additions, and as the two sons, George and Charles, grew to manhood, they were taken into partnership. Mr. Howard died in 1900, and Mrs. Howard lived with her son, Charles, in the village of Lyle, until November 18, 1910, when she died. Mr. Howard was a man of sterling character, loving in his family and loyal to his friends.

John Mahoney, now deceased, was for many years a prominent farmer of LeRoy township. He came to LeRoy as a poor man, and by good management and hard work accumulated a handsome property. He held the esteem of the community and was beloved for his many excellent traits of mind and character. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, November 15, 1846, youngest child of John Mahoney, the elder, who came to America in 1859, located in Mower county in 1866 and died in 1878. John, the subject of this sketch, came to America with his father at eleven years of age, living for a time in Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and then coming to Mower county in 1866. He acquired the southwest quarter of section 7, LeRoy township, broke and improved the land, erected buildings and a fine home, increased his holdings from time to time, and carried on general farming until his lamented death, April 19, 1902, when he was killed by being thrown from a vehicle by a pair of runaway horses. Mr. Mahoney

was well thought of in the community and was an enthusiastic member of the A. F. & A. M. at LeRoy and the commandery at Austin as well as of the Eastern Star. He was married April 15, 1877, to Sarah L. Smith, born at Yorksville, Pa., March 17, 1855, daughter of Charles and Fannie (Rawley) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania. They came west to this county in 1866, purchased 160 acres of land in LeRoy township, one mile west of the village, lived there a short time, and then sold out, immediately purchasing the adjoining 160 acres, where they erected a pleasant home and conducted general farming the remainder of their days, Charles Smith dying January 28, 1893, and his wife May 18, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Smith were the parents of six children. James P. died at two years of age; Milton, Alvin, Lucy J. and Charles E. died within the same month, all of diphtheria. Mrs. Mahoney is the only surviving member of the family. To Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney were born three daughters. Fannie E. is now Mrs. Adolph Bhend, of Le Roy township. She is a graduate of the Le Roy high school and before her marriage taught school. Mary E. graduated from the Decorah Business College, and is now an able stenographer in Mason City, Iowa. Iva R. lives at home and attends the Le Roy high school. Mrs. Mahoney still owns the old homestead of 240 acres aside from twenty acres of timberland. Since the death of Mr. Mahoney, she has rented the farm and purchased a fine residence in Le Roy where she now lives. She has taken great pride in the education of her children. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney were charter members of the Eastern Star at LeRoy, and Mr. Mahoney was treasurer of his school district for over thirty years.

George A. Lyman, a pioneer of Fillmore county, came to Frankford township with his family in 1905, and immediately became identified with the progress of this locality. He has already served as assessor two years and is much interested in the educational matters of his district. The subject of this sketch was born in Fillmore county, March 18, 1862, son of Abner F. and Ellen (Green) Lyman, the former a native of Northfield, Mass., and the latter of Ware, N. H. Abner F. Lyman came to Hartland, Wis., with his parents, was there reared, and in 1855 came to Fillmore county, where he passed the remainder of his life with the exception of a few years in Racine township, this county. George A. passed his early life on the farm, and attended the district school of Sumner in his native county. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits there until coming to Frankford township. He married Hannah, daughter of J. C. and Sarah J. (Hoff) Brush, the former a native of St. Albans, Vt., and the latter from New York state. This union has resulted in five chil-

dren: Daisy E., Myrtle E., Verner G., Nellie M. and Glen A., who died at about two years of age, August 27, 1910.

Henry J. Lockwood, Jr., of Frankford township, is of that younger generation who combine the hardworking, industrious temperament of their predecessors with the intelligent and scientific understanding of agricultural conditions which has resulted from modern experiment and investigation. The subject of this sketch is a native of Mower county, having been born on the farm where he now resides February 14, 1879, son of Henry J. Lockwood, Sr., now deceased. He received his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood and in the graded schools of Grand Meadow. Then he entered the agricultural school of the University of Minnesota, and was pursuing his studies there when he was called home by his father's death. He now has charge of the Lockwood estate consisting of 525 acres in sections 14, 22, 23 and 27, Frankford township, and carries on general farming on an extensive scale, making a specialty of Shorthorn and Durham cattle. Mr. Lockwood is an independent Democrat, and has served as treasurer of school district 19 for eight years. He is also a stockholder in the Exchange Bank, of Grand Meadow. The subject of this sketch was married September 2, 1902, to Julia Nelson, born in Grand Meadow, this county, February 27, 1880, daughter of Gilbert and Karen G. (Olson) Nelson, who came to America from Norway in 1870, located in Grand Meadow township and took up general farming, the father dying January 10, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood have two children: Katherine Claire, born August 8, 1905, and Charles Henry, born February 15, 1910.

Henry J. Lockwood, Sr., was one of the early settlers of this county, although not of the earliest. He was born of true American parents of French and English descent, who were among the first settlers of the country. His mother died when he was thirteen years of age, and being the only boy the duty of becoming bread winner for the family devolved upon him, the father being a cripple. Henry J. clothed and schooled his two sisters on his small salary of \$12.50 per month for four years, or until they were old enough to work some. His "stick-to-it-iveness" and determination won for him the respect of men who helped him up the ladder, round by round. In 1858 he came from Ohio to Minnesota with a team and settled in Fillmore county, where he taught school winters and worked his farm of eighty acres in summer. In 1863 he went back to Ohio and married Kathryn Sharp, who with his sisters accompanied him back to this western home. When the Indians made trouble at New Ulm and at other places he applied for enlistment but was again rejected as on two other occasions when the calls were made for



H. J. LOCKWOOD

volunteers at the beginning of the Civil war, on account of his having but one eye (the sight of the other being damaged by a cataract growth). He figured strongly in the political affairs of the township wherein he resided. In 1865 he bought a farm of 160 acres in Frankford township and moved onto it in May of that year. He served two terms as county commissioner and was always found ready to serve the best interests of the county regardless of threats or bribery, thus placing him in the ranks of those who do and dare. He was a strong and loyal lover of liberty and strove to serve his country. His opportunity came when the Spanish war broke out, and Jay, his second son, enlisted in Company G of the Twelfth Regiment of Minnesota Volunteers, the members of which were held at Chickamauga, for months. Jay became very sick, and as a father Mr. Lockwood kept his word. "Boy, I'll come when you need me," and he went despite the entreaties of his family. He nursed, waited upon, fanned and kept flies off the sick boys until the strength of his sixty-two years began to lag and he became a victim of the typhoid malaria and lived but one month after reaching home, dying with the full assurance that he had served his country. Word came from camp often, enquiring of "Dad's" welfare, for that is what they named him at the U. S. hospital. The sick boys would call and call for assistance and as a last resort call for "Dad," who never failed them as long as his strength remained. Though not rich he left a good farm of 525 acres as a result of the push and determination of a poor boy. He was an example of charity for his fellow man, and his straight, honest dealings in business and politics won for him the respect of those who were acquainted with him.

Ole Christenson Bratrud, who gave the land upon which the Norwegian Lutheran church is located in Bennington township, was born in Sigdal, Norway, on March 25, 1833, and came to America with his parents in the spring of 1848, spending seven weeks on the Atlantic ocean. He first located at Rock Prairie, Wis. In May, 1854, he was united in marriage to Ambjer Fineseth, of that place, and soon thereafter they came to Minnesota and located at Root Prairie, near Fountain. Here the family lived until the death of Mrs. Bratrud, October 27, 1872. To them six children were born, three of whom died quite young. Of the other three, Louis died at West Superior, Wis., in 1896, and Thollef died at Chester, Iowa, in 1905. The oldest, Christian C., resides at Sioux Falls, S. D., where he is vice president of the Sioux Falls Savings Bank and has twice represented his district in the state legislature. On June 1, 1873, O. C. Bratrud was united in marriage to Elsie Torgrimson, who survives him and is now living in St. Paul. This union was blessed with seven chil-

dren, all of whom are living. They are: Dr. Theodore Bratrud, of Warren, Minn.; Albert, who is a farmer in Bennington township; E. Oscar, who is cashier of the State Bank of Roswell, S. D.; John who attends the St. Paul Law School; Clara, who is at the Northwestern Conservatory of Art and Music at Minneapolis, and Arthur and Edward, who are medical students at the state university. Ole Bratrud was a public spirited citizen and was honored by having been elected to several positions of trust in his county. In 1870 he represented Fillmore county in the state legislature. In the spring of 1889 Mr. Bratrud with his family moved to Spring Valley for the purpose of better educating his children and to look after his real estate holdings, which consisted of a tract of 380 acres in Bennington township, in Mower county, and various tracts in Fillmore county. He was an honorable, upright Christian man and worked very industriously to give his children a good education. In this he succeeded admirably and for it they will ever praise his memory. Mr. Bratrud passed away at his home in Spring Valley February 26, 1910.

Joseph R. Mason was born in Westminster, Windham county, Vermont, August 15, 1827. In 1845 he came with his parents to Dane county, Wisconsin, and there his father purchased and improved government land on which he remained until the time of his death. In 1852 he married Lucinda Freeman, a native of the town of Plymouth, Chenango county, New York. In 1856 they started westward to seek a new home, and for several years lived in Mitchell county, Iowa. Their residence in Mower county dates from 1865, when they came to LeRoy township and purchased 240 acres of land in section 8. This land they broke and improved, and here they carried on general farming until death, Joseph R. dying June 6, 1894, and his wife December 31, 1893. They had three children, Florence and Clarence, twins, and Arthur. They also brought up two children not adopted, Ida May and Ella.

Asa Brown, an early hotelkeeper, was born in Vermont, and married Lucy Baker, of Ohio. After their marriage they located in Indiana, where Asa was one of the contractors on the Wabash canal. After the completion of the canal he located in Noble county, purchased a tract of land, and founded the village of Lisbon. Here he also erected a hotel which he conducted for several years. In 1861 he removed to Alexandria, Minn., built and conducted a feed and flouring mill, and remained three years. In 1864 he came to Austin, Minn., and purchased what afterward became the Lacy House. Three years later he sold out and purchased a farm in Fillmore county. After farming three years he came to LeRoy and engaged in the hotel business a year. Then he and his wife spent two years in Kentucky, afterward taking

up their residence in Lansing township. Here Asa Brown died in 1876 at the age of eighty-three years. His wife died in June, 1909, at the age of eighty-seven.

Charles B. Brown, a prominent farmer of LeRoy township, was born in Noble county, Indiana, August 19, 1849, son of Asa and Lucy (Baker) Brown. He received his early education in Cold Springs, Ind., and at Austin, Minn., and then engaged in farming in Lansing and LeRoy townships until 1885, when he went to Anoka, Minn., and engaged in lumbering for some fourteen years. In 1899 he returned to LeRoy township and engaged in farming on the Mason place in section 8, where he is now successfully engaged in diversified farming, making a specialty of Durham and Black Poll cattle. Mr. Brown was married November 5, 1873, to Florence Mason, born in Rutland county, Vermont, May 12, 1856, daughter of Joseph and Lucinda (Freeman) Mason. This union has been blessed with three children: Jay R., born March 6, 1875, is manager of the North American telegraph in the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce; May, born July 16, 1880, is the wife of Charles Howe, of LeRoy village. Grace is the wife of Arthur J. Arnot, of Bismarck, N. D.

John H. Skinner, managing editor of the Austin Herald, daily and weekly, was born in Northampton, Mass., August 13, 1864, son of Thomas and Rosamond (Reece) Skinner. The family moved to South Hadley, Mass., where John H. was reared. After leaving school he took up newspaper work, came to Mower county in 1896, and became proprietor of the Herald two years later. In 1907 he disposed of a half interest to Fred C. Ulmer. Mr. Skinner was married June 26, 1900, to Gertrude C. Ellis, daughter of Allen V. and Helen (Quain) Ellis. Mrs. Skinner was born in Mower county, has traveled extensively in Europe, and was superintendent of Mower county schools ten years. She is now associate editor of the Herald.

Fred C. Ulmer, business manager of the Austin Herald, daily and weekly, was born in Clear Lake, Iowa, December 23, 1880, son of Charles and Bertha (Pezold) Ulmer, both of German birth. He was brought by them to Austin in 1891, graduated from the Austin high school in 1901, and began his newspaper career as a reporter on the Mower County Register. A year later he entered the employ of George A. Hormel & Co., and remained with this firm until 1907, when he became a copartner in the firm of Skinner & Ulmer. Mr. Ulmer is an official of the Episcopal church, worshipful master of Fidelity Lodge, No. 39, A. F. & A. M., and a member of various other organizations and clubs.

George E. Anderson, assistant postmaster of Austin, is a native born son of this county, having first seen the light of day August 23, 1876, on a farm in Marshall township, twelve miles

east of Austin. His parents are Sven and Anna (Anderson) Anderson, the pioneers. George E. attended the district schools, came to Austin with his parents in 1881, and graduated from the Austin high school in 1893. Then he attended the University of Minnesota three years. Subsequently he entered the mail service as clerk in the Austin postoffice, and later took the first civil service examination which was held in Austin for the city carrier service, standing the highest in a class of forty-five. He served as carrier for nine years, and in 1907 was appointed assistant postmaster. In December, 1910, he was placed in the civil service by an order affecting all the assistant postmasters in second class offices throughout the United States. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Masonic order, and is a past commander of St. Bernard Commandery, No. 13, Knights Templar, as well as past worthy patron of Unity Chapter, No. 29, O. E. S. He is also a member of the M. W. A., the Austin Commercial Club, the Austin high school alumnae association and the Minnesota Association of Assistant Postmasters. The subject of this sketch was married July 1, 1903, to Mollie Anderson, daughter of O. G. and Matilda (Nelson) Anderson, old settlers of Lansing township. To this union has been born one child, George E. Anderson, Jr., born November 15, 1910. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church. In spite of his busy life, Mr. Anderson has found time to make a hobby of collecting coins and Civil war relics. His collection of war relics is one of the finest in southern Minnesota and his coin collection contains many coins of rare value.

Paul C. Keith, the successful editor of the Adams Review, was born in Traer, Iowa, April 23, 1885, son of William C. and Betsey (Jackson) Keith, natives of Scotland. He attended the common schools, graduated from the Goldfield (Iowa) high school in 1901 and then took courses at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Ill., and Coe College, at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Then he took up newspaper business. He came to Mower county in 1908 and in April of the following year became editor of the Adams Review. He is a member of a number of organizations and has served the village of Adams in various capacities.

Charles Brownlow, one of the prominent citizens of LeRoy village, has extensive interests in this part of the county, and is honored as a man of progressive views and keen business ability. He was born in Beaver Dam, Wis., November 17, 1872, son of Joseph and Eliza (Hufton) Brownlow. He received his early education in the district schools of Mower county, and then took up farming with his father and brothers, helping to break and develop what was then the extensive Brownlow farm. Here he carried on farming until 1901, when he retired and moved to the village of LeRoy, where he and his family now reside in a beau-

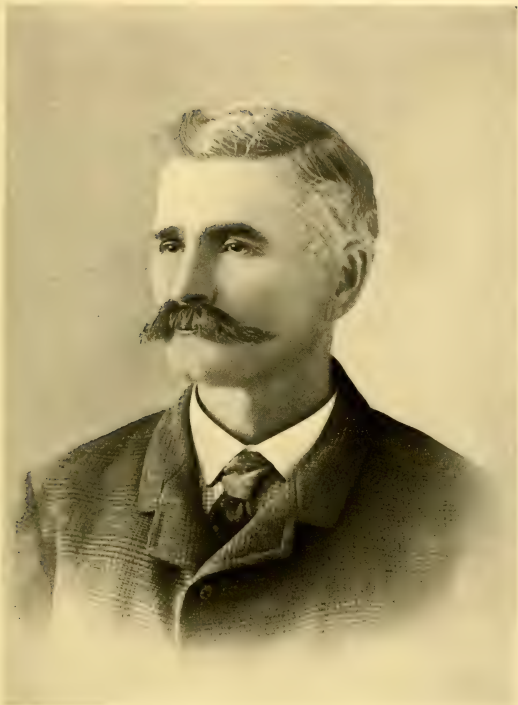
tiful home on North Main street. He looks after his own business interests, and has charge of his wife's farm of 1,280 acres in Clayton township, owning aside from this a section of land in North Dakota. He is a Republican, has served on the village council of LeRoy, affiliates with the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A., and attends the Baptist church. Mr. Brownlow was married December 5, 1901, at LeRoy, to Claudine Colman, daughter of D. B. Colman.

Joseph Brownlow was born in Lincolnshire, England, and came to America as a young man, afterward returning to his native shire and marrying Eliza Hutton, a native of the same place. Together they located in Beaver Dam, Wis., where Joseph engaged in farming for a short period, later taking up the cooperage business at the same place. In 1875 he moved his family to the state of Maryland, where they remained four years, from 1875 to 1879, and then in 1880 coming to LeRoy immediately locating in Lodi township, where he first purchased 280 acres of land. To this farm he added from time to time until he owned 640 acres, his land lying in the townships of LeRoy, Bennington and Lodi. Together with his sons he broke and developed this land, erected commodious buildings, and there remained until his death. He was a man of sterling qualities, well liked throughout the community for his industry, thrift and honesty. He died November 3, 1903, and his wife March 16, 1887. They were the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter: William, now on the home farm in Lodi; Fannie, who is now Mrs. Henry J. Boyd, of LeRoy; Richard, a farmer of LeRoy township; Charles, of LeRoy, and Frank, who also carries on farming in LeRoy township.

Decatur B. Colman, now deceased, the father of Mrs. Charles Brownlow, was one of the most successful farmers in Mower county, at one time owning 2,560 acres of land in this county. He was born in the town of Springfield, Otsego county, New York, September 21, 1826, and was reared to agricultural pursuits, receiving his education in the district schools and later attending the Oriskany Academy in Onondaga for three terms. At seventeen years of age he began his life as a teacher, which profession he followed the greater part of his time for the following twelve years, in the states of New York, Ohio, Wisconsin. He had during this time been engaged in clerking in a general store one and a half years. In 1855 he dealt in horses, living in Ohio and shipping them west. In 1857 he moved to Iowa and located at Burr Oak, and there engaged in the mercantile business. There he continued for two years. In 1859 he moved to Preston, Fillmore county, this state, where he was a pioneer. There he opened a store with a large stock of general merchan-

dise, and was with Conkey Bros., the leading merchants of Prescott, for many years. In 1874 he opened a branch store at Grand Meadow, being the first store in the place. In 1868 he purchased four sections of land in Clayton township, viz.: sections 14, 15, 22 and 23. Later he sold sections 14 and 23. In 1869 he commenced improvements on sections 15 and 22, and in 1877 settled on the farm, where he followed general farming until 1896, when he retired and moved to LeRoy. He died July 12, 1900, and his wife passed away December 1, 1903. They were the parents of two children: Clarence, who died at two and a half years, and Claudine, who is now Mrs. Charles Brownlow, of LeRoy. Mr. Colman was married January 22, 1856, to Minerva E. Thayer, born in the town of Springfield, N. Y. Mr. Colman always took an active interest in public affairs, served as a member of the town board of Preston, was county commissioner of Fillmore county, and several times chairman of the board of supervisors in Clayton township.

Allen Valois Ellis was born in Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, February 8, 1834. He attended district school until his fifteenth year, when he entered St. Lawrence Academy. After a year in study here, he taught school for two years and at the age of eighteen, on April 6, 1852, he started for the gold fields of California. He made the journey overland from Erie, Pa., where railroad traffic ended, and at St. Joseph, Mo., joined the Beeman-Pugh overland party to California, under the personal leadership of Pugh. The journey ended at Eldorado, Cal., September 11, 1852. For the next three years Mr. Ellis worked in the gold mines of California. He made the homeward journey via Isthmus of Panama, minted his gold in Philadelphia and returned to his old home in Potsdam, where he married Belle McGill, February 13, 1856. Three months later he came west, preëmpted 160 acres of land thirty miles west of Red Wing and also bought a quarter section. Later he sold his land and returned east. His wife died January 1, 1857, leaving an infant daughter. In May of that year he again came west and located at Austin, and was employed as civil engineer of the Minnesota Central railway. On April 24, 1859, he married Helen Quain and the next day they moved out to what is now known as the Evergreen Farm, where he lived for more than fifty years, dying there August 3, 1909. He left a widow, two sons, Charles F., of Mandan, N. D., and Dr. Sidney A., of Boston, Mass., also four daughters, Mrs. W. W. Keyser, of St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. J. H. Skinner, Austin; Mrs. K. C. Ingmundson, St. Paul, and Mattie C. Ellis, Peru, Neb. Mr. Ellis was one of the builders of the county. He was a man of tireless energy and indomitable will. When other men were satisfied to sow their wheat among the



ALLEN V. ELLIS

stumps, he cleared his fields by grubbing. He is credited with being the first man to bring the evergreen trees to this county and from his nursery rows thousands of these trees were transplanted to beautify southern Minnesota. He counted these his best monument.

Ole Aslakson is one of the leading citizens of Nevada township. He has been assessor of the township for thirty years, member of the board of supervisors three years, chairman of that board five years and clerk of the school board of his district for many terms. He believes in the betterment and improvement of farm conditions, and his services as president of the Nevada Farmers' Co-operative Creamery have given general satisfaction. Mr. Aslakson was born in Norway, April 14, 1845, son of Aslak Oleson, and came to America as a young man. He lived a time in Chicago working at the carpenter trade, which he had learned in the old country, and then came to Mower county, pursuing the same line of work. In 1875 he purchased 160 acres in section 14, Nevada township, where he now lives. In the early days he erected a shanty 14x16 and in this lived for some time. He now has a fine complement of buildings, mostly erected by his own hands. The old original residence is preserved on the place and used for a tool shed. At first Mr. Aslakson raised grain, but of late years has carried on general diversified farming on the three quarter sections of land which he now owns. He takes particular pride in his herd of Shorthorns, and has about forty head, which he breeds for both beef and dairy purposes. Mr. Aslakson was married June 24, 1876, to Susie Anderson, a native of Norway, and they have eleven children: Anton, Andrew, Theodore, Christian, Halver, Ole, Clara, Lena, Selva, Gertrude and Hilda. Anton is married and lives in the town of Nevada; others are at home and the three youngest attend school. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Peter Lausen, one of the substantial farmers of Lyle township, has made his own way in the world with but little encouragement, and is a fine example of a self-made man. He was born in Ato Schleswig-Holstein, now Germany, then a part of Denmark, September 10, 1863, son of Peter and Anna (Hansen) Lausen, natives of Schleswig-Holstein, but of Danish blood. The father is still living in the old country, and follows his trade as a shoemaker. The mother died in 1895. Peter received his education in the schools of his native land, and came to this country at the age of seventeen years, arriving in Austin, April 27, 1881. Here he worked out by the month on a farm for a period of five years, and then spent a summer in California, later returning to Austin, where he accepted a position with Oscar Ayers, in his machine shop, remaining with him for five years. He then accepted a

position with the Minneapolis Harvester Company, working with that company three years. Subsequently he engaged with the Interstate Grain Company, as manager of their elevator at Varco, for six years, serving in the elevator winters and working on his farm in the summer. In 1893 he purchased 160 acres of land in section 1, Lyle township, which he developed and brought to a high state of cultivation. In 1899 he erected a new modern home and buildings, now having a model farm place in every respect. In 1902 he added eighty acres to his farm, making 240 acres in all. Mr. Lausen is an independent Republican, a member of the Lutheran church, a member of the M. W. A., and has served on the board of town supervisors of Lyle township, a position he still occupies. He also is clerk of school district number 46. When Mr. Lausen came to this vicinity he had \$2.80 in his pocket, and since then, aside from acquiring his fine property, he has sent over \$1,000 to his parents in the old country. The subject of this sketch was married August 26, 1896, to Randi E. Evenson, and to this union have been born three children: May, born December 23, 1897; Henry, born October 19, 1901, and Minnie, born October 31, 1906.

M. J. McGown, one of the progressive farmers of Waltham township, was born in Rochester, Minn., February 13, 1869, son of Alexander and Mina (Johnson) McGown. The father, Alexander, a native of Ireland, came to America in 1853, settled in St. Lawrence county, New York state, and then in 1865 came to Minnesota. After living four years in Rochester, he came to Waltham township, and settled in section 21, where he carried on farming until his death, in 1904. J. M. McGown spent his early life on his father's farm and was educated in the common schools. After his marriage to Alice, daughter of Bert E. and Eliza (Symes) Stimson, he purchased his present farm in section 21, Waltham township. Here he has a comfortable home, commodious barns, and 320 acres of land upon which he conducts general farming. He has taken an interest in the affairs of the township and has served as supervisor, town clerk and assessor. Being of a fraternal nature he has allied himself with the A. F. & A. M., the Eastern Star and the M. W. A.

Rev. Olaf Carl Myhre, pastor of the Little Cedar Lutheran Congregation, of Adams, and of the West Leroy Lutheran church, in LeRoy township, is an earnest worker for the cause to which he has consecrated his life, being respected by the entire community and loved by the members of his two flocks. He was born in the parish of Vang, Valdres, Norway, January 18, 1870, being baptized March 31, of the same year. He is the son of Christopher and Marie Myhre. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Norway, came to America with

his parents in 1882, and located with them in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He was confirmed in that county June 3, 1883, by the Rev. J. N. Kildahl. In the fall of 1884 he entered Luther College, at Decorah, Iowa, where he studied for three years. After this he entered St. Olaf College, at Northfield, Minn., for a similar period. Later he studied for two years at the Dr. Martin Luther College, at New Ulm, Minn. In the fall of 1892 he entered the Augsburg Seminary, and graduated in May, 1895. After receiving a call he was ordained as a pastor of the United Lutheran church, June 26, 1895, at St. Paul, at the annual meeting of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. He accepted the call and became pastor of the Windom Lutheran church, in Cottonwood county, Minnesota, serving three congregations, Windom, Heron Lake and Brewster, staying there for twelve years. Then he received a call to Adams, where he was installed pastor of the Little Cedar Lutheran church, September 30, 1906. This charge includes the congregations mentioned at the head of this sketch. Mr. Myhre is a member of the Annuity Fund for Pastors and Professors of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. He was married at Windom, Cottonwood county, Minnesota, January 21, 1901, to Clara Marie Hanson, of that place. This union has been gladdened with three sons: Valgard C. H., born October 3, 1903; Hilding C. M., born July 21, 1906; Paul L. S., born April 11, 1908.

Christopher Myhre and Marie Myhre, his wife, were natives of Valdres, Norway. They came to America in 1882, and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, near Kenyon. Two years later, in 1884, the wife died. Shortly after this Christopher Myhre went to Brookings county, South Dakota, where he engaged in farming for the remainder of his days. He died in 1890.

Wilber D. Ames, chairman of Lyle township, has spent his entire life in this county, and is known as one of the progressive and prosperous men of the community, always ready to bear his share in promoting any good cause. He was born in Lyle township, October 9, 1861, only son of Ezra D. Ames, an early pioneer of the county. After receiving his education in the district schools, he took up agricultural pursuits with his parents, remaining on the home farm until twenty-five years of age, when he purchased eighty acres of land from his grandmother, Loomis, just across the street from his birthplace, in section 18. Since that time he has added 160 acres in section 19. He has greatly improved this land, erected modern buildings, and brought the place to a high state of cultivation, conducting diversified farming along the latest approved methods. He served on the town board for five years, and at the present time is chairman. He has served on the school board over twenty years, and at the

present time is clerk. He is an independent Republican and a Methodist, and belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. The subject of this sketch was married March 22, 1887, to Carrie A. Torrens, daughter of James and Charlotte Torrens, prominent farmers of Oakland township, Freeborn county. To this union has been born one son, Loy L., born April 8, 1888, who makes his home with his parents on the farm.

Ezra D. Ames, an early pioneer settler of Mower county, was born in LeRoy, Geneseo county, New York, May 15, 1826. His father was a native of Massachusetts and a millwright by trade. When five years of age Ezra D. went with his parents to Venango county, New York, for two years. They then removed to Pennsylvania, spending eight years in Mercer and Beaver counties, thence to DeKalb county, Indiana. At sixteen years of age Ezra began work with his father; one year later his father died, and he continued working with his brothers two years. He then engaged on the Wabash canal, and followed boating until 1854, when he took up farming in DeKalb county, Indiana. In 1855 he removed to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he remained until March of the following year, when he hired a team to convey his family and household goods to Mower county, Minnesota, first living in an empty shanty which they occupied for a few weeks, in the meantime preëmpting land in section 21, in Lyle township, and building a log house. The same fall they moved on section 19, where a fine frame house was soon erected. Mr. Ames broke and developed the land, and set out an abundance of fruit trees, as well as planting a fine grove. In 1883 he had 250 apple trees all bearing fruit, it being at that time the finest and largest orchard in Mower county. He lived on his farm until 1893, at that time renting out his farm, since which time he has lived with his children, now living with his son, W. D. Ames. His wife died June 7, 1893. He was married June 13, 1852, to Mary Loomis, daughter of Samuel and Christina (Swarts) Loomis. She was born in Wayne county, Ohio, May 19, 1836. They had four children: Emma, wife of A. A. Smith, now of Austin, died September 13, 1885; Ida, wife of John Summers, of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Hattie, now Mrs. William Jackman, of Nebraska; William D., of Lyle township.

Samuel E. Morse, a pioneer, was born in Camden, Oneida county, New York, April 8, 1843, youngest son of Elihue and Mary (Stoddard) Morse, well known settlers of the early days. He was brought by his parents to Indiana in 1848, and was but thirteen years of age when he came to Mower county with his parents. He attended school as a boy, and assisted his father on the farm until December 16, 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and went south



E. D. AMES

and participated in the many important battles in which the regiment was engaged. He reinlisted in January, 1863, and served in the same company until July 16, 1865, being mustered out at Louisville, Ky., and discharged with his regiment at Ft. Snelling. Then he returned home and farmed with his father until 1876, when he purchased the old homestead of 160 acres in LeRoy township. This he has increased until he now owns 320 acres in LeRoy township, as well as a half interest in a 400-acre tract in Wisconsin. He now carries on general farming in LeRoy township. He is a director in the State Bank of LeRoy, in which he has served sixteen years, and he also has other business holdings. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and of the G. A. R., has served on the school board for many terms and has been clerk of his district for over sixteen years. The subject of this sketch was married at Austin, by Elder Parker, April 8, 1875, to Julia A. Bacon, born in Wisconsin, December 6, 1850, daughter of Samuel P. and Elizabeth Bowen Bacon, who settled in LeRoy township in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Morse were blessed with seven children: Mabel E., Marion B., Milton A., Melvin E., Morton P., Minnie R. and Milo D. Samuel P. Bacon served in the legislature of Minnesota at an early day. In 1874 he and his wife moved to Texas and in 1875 to Kansas, where they both died.

Elihue Morse, the first settler in the north part of LeRoy township, was born in Litchfield, Litchfield county, Connecticut, October 14, 1803, and was there reared to agricultural pursuits. At the age of twenty-four he left home and located in New York state, where he was married in 1828 to Mary Stoddard, who was born in the town of Camden, Oneida county, New York, May 26, 1809. They lived in New York state until 1848, then moved to Whiteley county, Indiana, stayed there a short time, and then moved to Kosciusko county, remaining there until 1856. In that year they started for Minnesota with horse and ox teams, arriving in Mower county after eight weeks' travel. Elihue Morse entered the northwest quarter of section 6, in what is now the township of LeRoy. He drove stakes in the ground and placed the wagon boxes thereon, thus forming a shelter in which he lived until fall. He then erected a log house with a stone fireplace, the chimney being outside. During the following winter he drew his provisions on a hand sled from Frankford, then a small trading post at a distance of thirteen miles. He improved his farm, and made his home there until 1876, when he sold to his son, Samuel E., and purchased a place in the old village of LeRoy. There he lived until 1883, when he and his wife returned to the old homestead to live with their son. The father died December 6, 1887; the mother died in August, 1881.

James Magee, a well-to-do farmer of Lyle township, was born

in the north of Ireland, August 1, 1839. After attending school he remained in Ireland until 1860, when he came to America and located in Wisconsin, engaging in farming ten years, after which he came to Mower county and located in Lyle township, where he purchased 160 acres of wild land in section 7, range 18, township 101. This land he broke and improved, and erected some fine buildings, his farm now being in a fine stage of cultivation. In 1903 he erected a fine barn, 60x56. Mr. Magee breeds Short-horn cattle, and is now breeding in the Berkshire white hogs, following general farming. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Presbyterian church. He has always refused to serve in public office, although often urged to accept. He now owns 240 acres of land. Mr. Magee was married July 1, 1871, to Cassie Guy, and to this union have been born five sturdy sons: John; George, of Washington; Isaac and Joseph, who are on the home farm; Guy, who is clerking in a drug store at Lyle.

John Magee, eldest son of James Magee, was born in Lyle township, September 25, 1873, received his education in the Austin public schools and in an Austin business college. After this he returned to the home farm, where he remained until 1899, when he purchased 120 acres in sections 8 and 17, where he built his home, and now follows general diversified farming. He was married April 4, 1899, to Alma Dearborn, and they have one child, Myrtle, born December 14, 1900. Mr. Magee is a Republican, a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is serving his eleventh term as assessor of Lyle township, much to his honor and to the credit of the town.

John L. Neller was born in Baden, Germany, December 25, 1841. He came to America in 1852, and was married April 22, 1869, to Emma M. Stokes, born in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, April 27, 1850. He came with his parents to Udolpho township, where they settled in 1856. Mr. Neller enlisted August 9, 1862, in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, until August, 1865; was taken sick at Mobile about the time Lee surrendered, from the effects of sunstroke, and remained there until the last days of February, 1866, from the effects of which he draws a pension. John L. Neller is the son of Francis A. and Magdalena (Miller) Neller, who came to America, bringing a family of seven children, viz.: Margaret, Sebastian, Johanna, John L., Martin, Sophia and August. The mother died in Udolpho in 1862. The father moved to Blue Earth county, where he died December 13, 1883. Sebastian lived in the township until the summer of 1864, when he sold out and went to the town of Medo, Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he died January 29, 1878. John L. Neller was on the town board from 1885 to 1893 and was assessor in 1879. He now lives in Austin.

William G. Pace, treasurer of Lyle township as was his father before him, comes of an old pioneer family, his father and mother both having come to Lyle with the earliest settlers. He is a native of this county, born on the farm in Lyle, where he now lives, March 19, 1881, son of Charles M. and Emma (Gekler) Pace. William G. received his education in the school district of which he is now treasurer, namely, district 57, and then entered the Southern Minnesota Normal College, graduating in 1902. Thus equipped with an excellent education he returned to the home farm, and purchased the homestead of 120 acres in section 22, to which he has since added eighty acres more, making a fine farm of 200 acres, on which he now conducts general farming. Mr. Pace has made extensive improvements on his land and buildings, and has taken an active interest in the welfare of the town. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and is now serving his fourth term as town treasurer. He is a member of the M. W. A.. The subject of this sketch was married December 31, 1904, to Elma A. Vareo, of Austin township, and to this union have been born two children, Glenn E., born June 3, 1906, and Clarence N., born September 6, 1909.

Charles M. Pace, for many years treasurer of Lyle township and of school district 57, was born in Perry county, Ohio, son of William M. and Esther A. (Martin) Pace, the pioneers. He came to Mower county with his parents, here grew to manhood, and here married Emma Gekler, daughter of David Gekler, the pioneer. In 1902 Charles M. Pace and his wife went to Ward county, North Dakota, and took up a homestead where they still live.

William M. Pace was one of the pioneers of Mower county. He was born in Rehoboth, Perry county, Ohio, August 31, 1822, and there grew to manhood, attending school and assisting his father on the farm. When he was twenty-one years of age he rented a farm and commenced for himself. In 1856 he sold out and came to Mower county, locating in section 21, in the town of Lyle, where he lived for eight years, after which he moved to the south half of the southeast quarter of section 22, where he built a small frame house in which he lived for fifteen years. In 1878 he erected a fine dwelling, and later an excellent granary. Until 1864 Mr. Pace's nearest shipping point was at McGregor, a distance of 120 miles. Often Mr. Pace hauled wheat to Rochester with ox teams and sold it for fifty or sixty cents a bushel, camping along the way, both hotels and money being scarce. In November, 1861, Mr. Pace enlisted in Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served three years with the Army of the Potomac, after which he was honorably discharged. He was married May 22, 1844, to Esther A. Martin, who was an

adopted daughter of Judge Robert Lyle, for whom the township was named. This union resulted in six children: Charles M., Emery N., Jane, Elizabeth A., Almira O. and Eveline. Mrs. Esther A. Pace died in 1866 and thirteen years later Mr. Pace married Mrs. Electa Graham.

David Gekler, an early settler, was born in Germany, August 2, 1825, and in 1854 came to the United States, landing in New York and settling in Utica. Then he went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and in 1857 located in Lyle township. He married Anna M. Sloderbeck, who was born in Germany in 1828, and the fruit of this union was eight children: Bennie, Emma, Mary, Catherine, Lorenzo, Christina, Lowena and Esther.

S. L. Quackenbush, an honored veteran of the Civil war, now residing in Frankford township, was born in Onondaga county, New York, May 12, 1842, son of Lambert and Emlie (Kathan) Quackenbush. The subject of this sketch was four years old when his parents brought him to Wisconsin, where he spent his boyhood and young manhood. At the age of twenty-two, in 1864, he enlisted in the Union army and served six months as a teamster. Before his term of service had expired, he was taken ill, and came home, afterward receiving his honorable discharge. Three years later, in 1868, he came to Frankford township, and settled in section 12, where he still continues to reside. He has never sought office, but for eight years yielded to the solicitation of his friends and honorably filled the office of constable. During his residence here he has become a substantial citizen, and his opinions are greatly respected by his fellow citizens. Mr. Quackenbush married for his first wife Angeline M., daughter of O. H. Collar, and this union resulted in two sons, Elmer O. and William M. For his second wife he married Maria Sutton, daughter of Lemuel and Deborah (Laftin) Sutton.

Frank H. Reed, for eighteen years justice of the peace in Racine township, is a prominent man in the community, and is an excellent citizen in every respect. The subject of this sketch is the son of Daniel and Phoebe Reed and was born in Jefferson county, New York, January 31, 1856. The family moved to Sheboygan Falls, Wis., in 1865, and there Daniel died some weeks later, his wife, Phoebe, still making her home there. Frank H. was educated in New York and Wisconsin, and graduated from the Sheboygan Falls high school. In 1875 he came to Mower county, and taught in the public schools, being at one time principal of the schools at Blooming Prairie in Steele county. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres of land in section 28, Racine township, and on this tract he has since followed general farming. He makes a specialty of raising Jersey cattle, and sells cream to the Racine Farmers' Co-operative Creamery, of which

he was one of the original stockholders. In addition to the office already mentioned he was town clerk four years, town assessor, and a member of the school board of district 33 for ten years. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the I. O. O. F. and the A. O. U. W. Mr. Reed was married October 12, 1880, to Anna Stewart, daughter of R. E. Stewart, of Racine. This union has been blessed with three children. Jesse is in Montana; Daniel is at home, and Marie, for several years a school teacher, is now Mrs. Delbert Gordy. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Carl C. Skogstad, one of the supervisors of Frankford township, is a native of Norway, born January 3, 1855, son of Christian and Caren Skogstad, both of whom spent the span of their years in Norway. Carl C. attended the public schools in Norway, and in 1872 came to America. For five years he did farm and saw-mill work in various places, and then came to Frankford township, where he worked out as a farm hand for seven years. In 1884 he purchased 160 acres of land in sections 8 and 17, developed the land, erected a fine home and the necessary out-buildings, and carried on general farming. He has recently sold ninety acres, leaving him seventy which he conducts with much success. He is a Republican and aside from his town office has been director of his school district for several years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Grand Meadow, and also has other holdings. Mr. Skogstad is a member of the M. W. A. and a communicant of the Lutheran church. He was married December 29, 1882, to Regnald Florrend, born in Norway, June 10, 1850, daughter of Olaf and Martha Steffens, who came to America in 1852 and in 1856 located in Frankford. Mr. and Mrs. Skogstad have three children: Clarence was born April 11, 1883, and is a clerk in Grand Meadow; Otis was born October 10, 1886, and is a student at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.; Cora M. was born February 20, 1889, and lives at home.

Simon E. Severson, for six years deputy sheriff of Mower county, and for fifteen years constable of Racine township, was born in Norway, February 10, 1860, son of Erick and Marie Severson, also natives of that country. In July, 1861, the family came to America, landed at Quebec, and made their way directly to Mower county. Here Erick purchased eighty acres of railroad land in Racine township and raised grain. He still lives on his original purchase, his wife, Marie, having died January 27, 1907. Simon E. was educated in the country schools and until his marriage assisted his father on the farm, working out to earn such money as he needed for his personal wants. In 1901 he acquired forty acres in section 33, by inheritance, and to this he has added forty acres more. On this tract he conducts general

farming, raising the usual crops as well as Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He was married September 19, 1896, to Helen Halverson, and to this union has been born one daughter, Elise. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

William H. Spencer, assessor of the town of LeRoy for the past seven years, clerk of school district 21 for the past twenty-one years, and an earnest advocate of progressive and intensive farming, was born on the farm where he still resides in LeRoy township, May 26, 1857, son of William B. and Elizabeth (McGee) Spencer, who were among the earliest pioneers. He received his education in the district schools of LeRoy township, and after this engaged in farming in Otter Tail county for seven years. In 1885 he returned to his father's farm, and worked its 196 acres for two years, after which he purchased the place. Since then he has increased his holdings to 266 acres. On this farm he has continued to live, successfully conducting general farming on an extensive scale. He has erected a pleasant residence, and has some modern barns, in which are housed his high-bred pure-blooded Hereford cattle, of which he has a most excellent herd. Aside from his property holdings, he owns stock in the First State Bank, of LeRoy. Mr. Spencer was married May 8, 1879, to Helen E. Mason, daughter of J. M. and Margaret (Blackburn) Mason. This union has been blessed with six children: Orville, now of LeRoy township; Alma E., living at home; Lura H., now Mrs. A. C. Brooks, of Austin township; Elmer W., of LeRoy township; Marcia B., of Postville, Iowa, now Mrs. H. L. Hauck; and Elsie I., living at home. The family faith is that of the Presbyterian church.

J. M. Mason was born in Vermont, and located in Wisconsin when twenty years of age. He married Margaret Blackburn, who was born in England, and came to America at ten years of age. In 1863 they came to Mower county and purchased land in LeRoy township, where they lived until 1876, when they moved to LeRoy village. J. M. Mason died March 5, 1887, and his widow now makes her home in LeRoy township with her son, Lucian J. There were four children in the Mason family: Lucian J., a farmer of LeRoy township; Samuel M., of Morgan Hill, Cal.; Elizabeth M., who died in California in December, 1905, and Helen E., now Mrs. W. H. Spencer, of LeRoy.

William B. Spencer, a member of the first elected board of county commissioners of Mower county, was born in Covington, Rhode Island, September 5, 1823. When nine years of age he was taken by his parents to Deerfield, Rensselaer county, New York. Nine years later they went to Warren county, Pennsylvania, and there William B. was married October 11, 1842, to Elizabeth McGee, born in Warren, November 18, 1825. In 1855

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer started for Minnesota. At Dunkirk they, with their team, embarked on boat for Toledo, there took the cars for Chicago, and then made their way by team to Lafayette county, Wisconsin. On this journey Mr. Spencer was accompanied by his brother and sister as well as by his wife. After a rest of two months they started for Minnesota. The men were ill, and the wife and sister drove the teams. They came to the river at McGregor, pushed on to Mona, Iowa, and there Mr. Spencer left his family, and came to Mower county in search of a suitable location. He purchased a claim in what is now section 29, LeRoy, and then returned for his family. Upon their arrival here they moved into a log cabin, and lived in this until a farm house was built in 1857. At the first election for county officers, held in 1856, William B. Spencer was elected county commissioner, and held that office during the memorable county-seat contest. At the first town election he was made a member of the town board. In October, 1861, he enlisted and assisted Captain Mooers in raising Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, going with this company to Ft. Snelling as second lieutenant. During the winter he was taken ill, and this coupled with illness in his family caused his resignation. In 1862 he enlisted in Company M, First Minnesota Mounted Rangers, and was mustered in as first orderly sergeant, serving fourteen months with Sibley on the frontier. Then he returned to LeRoy and farmed until 1887, when he retired and moved to LeRoy village. His wife died November 4, 1906. Mr. Spencer now lives with his daughter, Elizabeth, in Ionia, Iowa. In the family were four children: Marcia, wife of L. W. Prosser, of LeRoy township; Henrietta, of Chicago; Elizabeth J., now wife of Dr. Deloss Hurlbert, of Ionia, Iowa, and William H.

Ole T. Sween, a well-liked farmer of Frankford township, was born in Norway, October 8, 1847, son of Thomas Olson and Ingar Olson, his wife. He received his education in Norway, and in 1856, at the age of nineteen years, came to America and located in Fillmore county, this state. In 1875 he came to Mower county, and with his father purchased land in sections 7 and 8, Frankford township. This farm they worked together until 1891, when the property was divided and Ole T. received the east half of the southwest quarter of section 8. Here he built his home and buildings, and started general farming operations, at which he has been most successful. Mr. Sween was married March 27, 1884, to Sarah Jorgens, who was born in Norway, July 25, 1850, and came to America in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Sween are the parents of three children: Thomas, born December 13, 1884; Ida J., born February 19, 1887, and Serena, born November 20, 1890.

Thomas Olson was born in Norway and there married Ingar Olson. They came to America in 1866, purchased eighty acres in Fillmore county, this state, and there farmed until 1875. In that year they sold their place and came to Mower county, where Thomas with his son, Ole T., purchased 240 acres in section 8, Frankford township, and fifty acres in section 7. On the fifty acres he erected his home, and together with his son carried on general farming until 1891. Then he sold fifty acres to the Norwegian Lutheran congregation, and gave his daughter, Mrs. Olaus Finhart, eighty acres in section 8, taking a life lease from her, and living with her until his death, March 24, 1901.

Oscar H. Hovda, a progressive farmer of Clayton township, was born in the township of Racine, this county, November 22, 1862, son of H. O. Hovda and Betsy Hovda, natives of Norway. Oscar H. was educated in the schools of Mower county and took a year's course in the Wasioja Seminary, at Wasioja, Minn. Later he studied commercial law and bookkeeping at Darling's Business College, at Rochester, Minn. Then he returned to the home farm, and assisted his parents. In 1887 he purchased 240 acres in sections 11 and 12, Clayton township, and here he has since resided, raising grain and live stock. He breeds cattle now, but has had sheep and has been very successful with them. Mr. Hovda is an estimable citizen in every respect.

Herman O. Hovda was born December 15, 1836, in Norway. He came to America with his parents, Ole O. Hovda and Carrie O. Hovda, in 1852. After living in Wisconsin a time they came to Mower county in 1854, and settled on a homestead in section 1, Racine. To this farm Herman O. has added until he now owns 480 acres. He raises grain and live stock, and is a hard-working, successful man. Mr. Hovda is a Lutheran and votes the Democratic ticket. Mrs. Betsy H. Hovda was born in Norway, August 27, 1843, and came to America in 1851 with her parents, Ole O. Simpson and Liva O. Simonson. After living in Wisconsin a time they came to Minnesota in 1854 and located in Mower county. She was married in 1861 to Herman O. Hovda. Twelve children have been born. Of these eight are living. They are: Oscar H. Hovda; Oliver H. Hovda; Christine, now Mrs. O. Johnson; Herman H. Hovda; Maggie, now Mrs. Henry E. Torgrimson; Tilda, now Mrs. S. Arneson; Sever H. Hovda and Thanlow H. Hovda.

Ralph Prescott, editor and proprietor of the LeRoy Independent, was born in Postville, Iowa, May 3, 1875, son of A. R. and Lydia (Easton) Prescott. He attended the common schools of his native place and took courses in Grinnell College at Grinnell, Iowa, and Valder's Business College at Decorah, Iowa. After this he learned the printing business with the Waukon (Iowa)

Standard. Subsequently he spent a year in Sheridan, Wyoming, and after his return became associate editor of the Waukon (Iowa) Republican for a year. Two years as editor of the New Hampton (Iowa) Courier and four years as editor of the Hector (Minnesota) Mirror gave him a varied experience in newspaper work, and in February, 1908, he came to LeRoy and purchased the LeRoy Independent. Mr. Prescott was married May 28, 1901, at Lansing, Iowa, to Jennie Fellows, daughter of Judge L. E. and Sophronia (Reed) Fellows, early residents of Lansing, Iowa. Editor and Mrs. Prescott are the parents of two children: Robert, born in 1902, and Ruth, born in 1903.

Lyman Allen Sherwood, now deceased, was one of the early clerks of court in Mower county. He was born in Somerset, Niagara county, New York, in 1833, son of Marston and Tryphena (Meade) Sherwood, descended from early New York and Vermont families. At the age of eighteen he left the farm, and for some years he and his brother instructed singing schools in various places. Later he came to Merton, Wis., and conducted a store until 1857, when he came to Austin and purchased property. A little more than a year later he took up his residence here. In December, 1862, he was married to Alta Isabella Albro, daughter of Martin Albro and Harriet Atillia Hutchinson, his wife. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted in Company C, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, as a private, and shortly after was appointed first lieutenant, and after nine months' service on the frontier, went south, and served nearly to the close of the war, returning on account of sickness. Upon his return to Austin he served as deputy provost marshal for this district. He served for some years as clerk of the court, as postmaster, and also in minor offices. He died in May, 1873, leaving besides his wife, four children: Gertrude M., now Mrs. S. D. Catherwood; Lyman Allen, of Chicago; Ira Burt, of Austin; and Grace B., superintendent of schools for Mower county. Mrs. Sherwood (Alta Isabella Albro) was born in Rochester, New York, April 6, 1844, daughter of Martin Albro, who settled in Rochester at an early day and became a prominent official of that place. After the death of Martin Albro, his wife (Harriet Atillia Hutchinson) married Joshua L. Davidson, and in 1857 the family came to Austin. Mrs. Sherwood is one of the oldest settlers of Austin, and has taken a prominent part in all movements for the betterment of the city and county.

George Kuhn, a representative citizen of Grand Meadow township, was born in Germany, October 25, 1854, son of George and Margaret Kuhn. He came to America in 1873, at nineteen years of age, and reached New York, March 1. After landing he went at once to Milwaukee, and there lived five years, working at his trade as harness maker. In 1878 he came to Grand Meadow

and located in section 36, where he carried on general farming for some years. He now owns a farm of 120 acres in section 35, where he lives, and also a fine place of 240 acres in Clayton township. Mr. Kuhn married for his first wife, Augusta Spiløtt Spøeser, and five children were born. Of these three are living: Charles, George W., and William. The present Mrs. Kuhn was Amelia Quarst.

A. L. Sims, retired hotel keeper of Brownsdale, and veteran of the Civil war, was born in Erie county, Ohio, December 7, 1840, son of Abraham and Susan (Barr) Sims. He was reared on the farm, and in 1862 enlisted in Company C, Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He saw much active service and participated in the following engagements: Battle of Dallas, Georgia; battles of Chickamauga and Mission Ridge; battle of Stone river; battle of Franklin; battle of Peach Tree creek; siege of Atlanta, Georgia, and charge of Kennesaw mountain. He was wounded at the battle of Dallas, Georgia. Mr. Sims was discharged March 9, 1865, after three years of service. In 1867 he married Mary Ann Nichols, of Iroquois, Illinois, and that same year came to Brownsdale, where he farmed and conducted a hotel for several years. Mr. Sims is prominent in G. A. R. circles and has been a member of Colonel Rogers post, No. 11, G. A. R., for many years. He is the father of three children: Frank, Nellie and Mary.

Samuel Scribner, the pioneer, was born in New York state, and married Hanna Chapman. He brought his family west to Delaware county, Iowa, in 1852; and in 1855 continued his trip, and took up his residence in 1856 in section 10, Frankford, where he preëmpted a quarter section of land, his oldest son, Andrew, preëmpting eighty acres in section 2. Upon their arrival here, they erected a small log house 12 x 16 feet, and the following year an addition was made. This addition was roofed with rag carpets and floored with earth. The severe winter of 1856-57 found the family thus housed, and at one time for three weeks the snow and intense cold prevented their reaching hay which was stacked forty rods away. But the years passed, the land was broken, a comfortable house replaced the old log cabin, and the crops were good. Samuel Scribner died in February, 1881, and his good wife, December 6, 1899. They had twelve children: Andrew J., George W., Ann Eliza, Adeline, Martin V. B., Markus H., Anna M. and Luther C.

Andrew J. Scribner was born November 12, 1827, came west with his parents, assisted his father in preëmpting land, and still resides in Frankford township, on the west half of his father's preëmption. George W. Scribner was born in New York and married Sarah Coolidge, in Delaware county, Iowa. They lived a time in Iowa and then went to Indian Territory, now Oklahoma,



L. C. SCRIBNER



MRS. L. C. SCRIBNER.



L. C. SCRIBNER'S RESIDENCE.

where he died. Ann Eliza married Henry Doane, of Ohio. She died at her home in South Dakota, in 1909. Adeline married Charles H. Chamberlain. She died in Beloit, Kansas, in 1909. Martin V. B., at one time enrolling clerk in the Minnesota senate, married Ruth Sweet and farmed in Minnesota. In 1864 he enlisted in the Union army. Upon his return he purchased the Grand Meadow newspaper, continuing in the newspaper business in Minnesota, South Dakota and Montana the remainder of his life. He died December 6, 1909. Marcus H. devoted his life to farming and died in 1872. Anna M. married Henry B. Corey, former sheriff of Mower county, and now lives in Trinidad, Colorado.

Luther C. Scribner, a substantial and honored citizen of Frankford township, was born in Livingston county, New York, February 17, 1852, son of Samuel and Hanna (Chapman) Scribner. He came west with the rest of the family in 1852, and to Frankford in 1856. In this township he has since made his home. He served in town offices for many years, and in 1897 and 1899 served with distinction in the Minnesota state legislature. He served on the school board for many years. His political affiliations are with the Republican party, and he belongs to the Masons and the Woodmen. The subject of this sketch was married October 31, 1874, to Martha Shaw, and this union has been blessed with four children: Edna, a teacher in the town of Marshall; Roy, who is in the automobile business in San Francisco; Clarence M., who lives in Portland, Oregon, and Louverne G., who is a pupil in the Stewartville high school.

Charles W. Mott, an industrious farmer of Grand Meadow township, came to this county in 1902, and settled on section 5, where he still resides. He has erected a fine home, suitable out-buildings, and a large brick granary. His farm consists of 280 acres of rich land, all under cultivation, and on this place he successfully conducts farming on a large scale. Although a newcomer, he has taken an interest in Grand Meadow affairs and has served as clerk of his school district for six years. The subject of this sketch was born in Monroe county, New York, March 19, 1866, son of John and Elizabeth Mott, who came west in 1878, to Waverly, Iowa, where John farmed for a while. Then they went to Clarksville, in the same state, and there John took up the monument business, in which he is still engaged. Charles W. attended the schools in Spring Lake, Iowa, and at Victor, Butler county, in the same state. His early life was spent on the farm. He married Mary Ray, daughter of John Ray, and they have one daughter, Gladys L., aged seventeen.

Christ Nelson is a popular farmer of Grand Meadow, in which township he was born April 8, 1872, son of Martin and Maria

Nelson. The father, Martin, was born in Norway, and came to America in 1868, settling in Frankford township, where he lived two years. Then he came to Grand Meadow, lived here for a while, and then moved to Pleasant Valley, where he now resides. Christ, the subject of this sketch, attended school in Pleasant Valley township, and spent his early life on his father's farm. He now owns 160 acres in section 12, Grand Meadow township, and successfully conducts farming operations and stock raising. He married Anna Green, daughter of Truls Green, and they have six children: Melville, Clarence, Alfred, Elmer, Inez and the baby. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Borgen Anderson is one of the progressive farmers of Frankford township, and works eighty acres in section 8, on which he carries on general farming. Mr. Anderson is a quiet man and has never cared to mingle in public affairs, but in developing his farm has taken his share in the general progress of the county, and is regarded as one of the substantial men of his community. Borgen Anderson was born in Norway, September 15, 1842, son of Andrew and Carrie Christianson, who spent the span of their years in that country. He was reared on the home farm, and at the age of twenty set sail for America. He came directly to Mower county, and after his marriage located on his present farm. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran church. His wife, who originally owned the farm where he now lives, was Mrs. Elsie Olson before their marriage, July 7, 1886. By her marriage to Mr. Olson she had two children, Otto, now of Frankford township, and Christia, wife of Otto Hovda, of North Dakota.

Ferdinand Schuett, one of the leading farmers of Waltham township, was born in Watertown, Jefferson county, Wisconsin, June 20, 1861, son of Frederick and Augusta Schuett, the former of whom was born in Germany, came to America as a young man, located in Wisconsin, and there married and raised his family. Ferdinand attended the schools of his native place, and while still in his teens learned the trade of cheese making in Hustisford, Dodge county, this state. He worked at this trade there some fourteen years. In 1891, Mr. Schuett came to Waltham township, and purchased 167 acres of land in section 31. Though coming at a modern date, he experienced some of the characteristics of pioneer life, for his land when he came contained nothing in the shape of buildings but an old shack. The present home and barns are a compliment to the industry and good taste of the Schuett family. The farm is an excellent one, all except ten acres of the timberland being under cultivation. Mr. Schuett carries on general farming successfully, and raises the usual crops and live stock. By his marriage to Emma Lindumer, daughter of

Henry and Amelia Lindumer, he has five children: Arnold attends the Southern Minnesota Normal College, in Austin; Edgar is taking a seminary course at the Concordia college, in St. Paul; Arthur is taking a business course in the Southern Minnesota Normal College; Esther and Rona attend the district school in District 93, Waltham township. Mr. Schuett has been supervisor three years, assessor three years and a member of the school board several terms. He and his family worship at the Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church of Waltham.

John H. Rongley, now deceased, was a quiet, hard-working and industrious citizen of Bennington township. A good husband and considerate father, he left behind him a pleasant memory of a life well lived. John H. Rongley was born in Norway in 1843, and came to America in 1868, locating in Mower county in 1877. Here he purchased 240 acres in sections 34 and 27, and there farmed the remainder of his life. He was a Republican in politics, but never sought public office. He was married June 30, 1878, to Sophia Matson, who was born in Norway, August 23, 1853, and came to America in 1876. Four children were born in the family: Henry M., December 29, 1882; Alma, August 29, 1885; John H., May 25, 1888; Clara, born February 20, 1891. Mr. Rongley departed this life, May 20, 1893.

John Miller, a law-abiding citizen of Grand Meadow, has a well-improved farm of 160 acres in the northwest quarter of section 18, and here carries on general farming, making improvements from time to time as necessity requires. He has remodeled his home, erected a granary, and made other repairs. The subject of this sketch was born in Denmark, May 26, 1850, and came to America when he was twenty-two years of age, locating for several years in Rochester, this state. Then he came to Grand Meadow and purchased his present farm. He married for his first wife, Mary Nissen. The present Mrs. Miller was Anna Jacobson, daughter of Jens Jacobson, and they have five children: Jens C., Christ, Mary, Arthur, and Ole.

James Joyce, who has been town clerk of Grand Meadow since 1892, except the years 1897 and 1903, has taken his share in the upbuilding of the community, and has shown his interest in education by his service as clerk of his school district. Being of a sociable nature, he has allied himself with the M. W. A. and with the B. P. O. E. at Austin. The subject of this sketch was born in St. Catherines, Canada, November 12, 1858, son of John and Ann Joyce. He came to the United States with his parents in 1865 and located in Eyota, Olmstead county, this state. After a short time there, the family moved on a farm in Dover township, in the same county, living in that vicinity from 1865 to 1878. In the latter year they came to Grand Meadow, and settled in the southeast

quarter of section 10. James spent the greater part of the time from 1880 to 1885 in Chicago and was married in 1892, when he moved to his present residence, where he has since resided, with the exception of one year, 1903, which he spent in Minneapolis as deputy state weigh master. He married Catherine McDonough, and has eight children: Victor J., Raphael, Madaline, Daniel, Maude, Clarice, Dewart and Everette.

William Christie, of Austin, an extensive dealer in farm implements, wagons and buggies, has at different times given southern Minnesota marked service as chairman of the boards of county commissioners of two counties, and is now serving in that capacity in Mower county. He was born in Highgate, Franklin county, Vermont, March 24, 1844, son of Adam and Mary Christie, who brought him to Wisconsin in 1855. In October, 1864, the subject of this sketch came to Minnesota, and started farming, purchasing a quarter section in 1871, located in Oakland township. In 1898 he came to Austin and engaged in his present business. Mr. Christie was assessor of Oakland township in Mower county twenty years, and also served as town treasurer, town supervisor and clerk of his school district. In 1883 he was elected chairman of the board of supervisors of Freeborn county and served with credit in that capacity for six years. In the fall of 1892 he was elected to the legislature and served one term. In 1904 he was elected county commissioner of Mower county for a four-year term and was reelected in 1908. Four years he has served as chairman of the board.

George Berg, an estimable citizen of Grand Meadow village, was born in the Kingdom of Posen, Germany, December 6, 1846, son of Friedrich and Henrietta Berg, who brought him to Brandon, Wisconsin, in 1863. He assisted on the home farm until after his father's death in 1881, when he and his brother disposed of the farm. George came at once to Frankford, settled on section 31, remodeled the farmhouse, erected a granary, made other improvements and successfully conducted general farming until 1910, when he moved to the village of Grand Meadow, where he now resides. He married Minnie, daughter of Friedrich and Annie Hewer, and they have had three children: August H, William and Emma (deceased). William resides in Frankford township and has charge of the home farm. The family faith is that of the German Lutheran church.

B. Underdahl, a substantial farmer of Clayton township, was born in Norway, September 29, 1863, son of Ole and Bertha Underdahl, who came to America in 1886 and who are now living on rented land in the township of Clayton. The subject of this sketch came to America in 1882, and from New York came directly to Mower county. On his arrival here he worked out

five years, and then purchased 160 acres in section 32, Clayton township. On this place he has since conducted general farming. His well-equipped barns were erected in 1900 and his comfortable home in 1903. Mr. Underdahl breeds Shorthorn cattle for beef and dairy purposes and also raises Poland-China hogs. He is a Republican in politics and has been school director of District 83 eight years and road overseer four years. Mr. Underdahl was married March 26, 1887, to Engre Hegge, a native of Mower county, and this union has resulted in ten children: Ole, Rachael, Alfred, Leo, Alma, Berdina, John, Stella, Thelma and the baby.

Charles Dexter Pollard came to LeRoy township just after the Civil war, and here spent the remainder of his life, achieving success and respect by his industry and virtues. He was born in Whately, Franklin county, Massachusetts, came to Stoughton, Wisconsin, at an early date, and then to Mower county. Here he married Helen Leach, who was born in Kirby, Caledonia county, Vermont, came to Stoughton, Wis., in early life, and then to Mower county. In 1866, Charles D. Pollard purchased 200 acres of land in section 10, LeRoy township, the purchase being made from Mr. Burns at ten dollars an acre. Here C. D. erected the necessary buildings and carried on farming extensively until his death, February 28, 1883. His wife died February 7, 1908. They were the parents of four children: Edward C., Frank M., Grace May, and Mabel Clare.

Edward C. Pollard was born in a pioneer log cabin on the farm where he still resides, September 3, 1868, son of Charles Dexter and Helen Elvira (Leach) Pollard. He received his education in the district schools of LeRoy township, and engaged in farming on the old place with his mother and brother. At the age of twenty years he took entire charge of the farm. Later it was divided and Edward C. received 286 acres. On this large farm he conducts general agricultural operations. In 1894 he engaged in raising Black Poll Angus cattle for beef, and now has a herd of sixty head, having previously had as high as a hundred head. Mr. Pollard is an independent voter.

Charles Bell, a venerable old pioneer, lived in LeRoy over a half a century, and in all that time maintained an enviable record for honor, integrity and uprightness. He was born February 5, 1827, in Henry county, Indiana, son of William Bell. William Bell was a native of Tennessee, but was reared in Kentucky, and came to Henry county, Indiana, with the early settlers. He took government land and farmed thereon until his death. It was here that Charles Bell grew to manhood. In 1848 he married Mary Zook, and rented a farm for two years. Then he managed his father's place until 1856, when with a team he started for Minnesota, arriving in LeRoy township after twenty-six days of travel.

He lived two months with A. D. Parks, and during this time he erected a log house on land which he had entered in the northeast quarter of section 19. In this cabin he lived until 1863, when he sold out and moved to the Frank farm. On December 25, 1863, he enlisted in Brackett's Battalion and went to the frontier in pursuit of Indians, serving until his discharge May 18, 1866. During his term of service his wife purchased a residence in section 29, LeRoy township, and in this the family lived until 1867, when Mr. Bell purchased the south half of the northeast quarter of section 17. This land he improved, and later he purchased the north half of the same quarter, thus giving him 240 acres. Mrs. Mary Zook Bell died November 9, 1875, leaving six children: Elizabeth, wife of Michael Kelley; Josephine, wife of James Leary; Ellen, wife of James McGilvery; Stephen D., living in Rochester; Charles, living in Billings, Montana; and Cora, wife of William Prebble, of Blue Earth, Minnesota. November 1, 1878, Mr. Bell married Jennie Hurlburt, and to this union was born one child, Maude, wife of Joseph Darrow. Joseph Darrow died in 1904. Mrs. Jennie Bell was born in New York state, June 16, 1845. She married John Cox, January 1, 1863, in the town of Union, Rock county, Wisconsin. Mr. Cox died in 1870, leaving one child, Viola, now wife of Henry Hermes, of Spring Valley, and mother of one son, Kenneth. The widow of John Cox married Miles Hurlburt in 1873, and on November 1, 1878, she married Charles Bell. For thirty-two years they shared the joys and sorrows of life together, until September 14, 1910, when Charles Bell passed into his eternal rest. Several years before his death he sold his farm and bought four acres just outside of the limits, where he built a home in which he lived a retired life until his death.

John J. Fardahl, one of the extensive land owners of Marshall township, was born in Norway in 1861, the son of John S. Fardahl, who came to the United States in 1875 and located in Philadelphia, later coming to Mower county. John J. Fardahl attended the schools of Norway from the age of eight to fourteen and then came to America. After reaching Mower county he attended the schools of District 105 for three months. At the age of twenty-three years he purchased the old home farm of eighty acres, and by industry and frugality, coupled with ability, he has been enabled to acquire other land, until he now owns 240 acres, his home being located in section 34, Marshall township. A larger part of this land was cleared of timber by Mr. Fardahl, and has now been brought to a high stage of cultivation. His chief work has been with grain and cows, although he carries on some general farming. He is a Republican in politics, and has been treasurer of School District 105 for several years. In 1886, the subject of this sketch married Gonhilde Skarsbö, a native of

Norway, and this union has been blessed with six children: John, deceased; and Alfred M., Carolina, Lewis, Melvin and Nils, all at home. John, the oldest, a most estimable young man, met with an accidental death in the state of Washington, in 1909. He was employed in the woods when a steel cable broke, causing injuries which resulted in his death. His former employers speak in highest terms of his work and character, and his companions and friends lamented his untimely death. S. J. Fardahl, a brother of John J., died in 1910. He and John J. were home boys together, and their companionship was closer than that which usually exists even between brothers.

Albert G. Larson, an enterprising and progressive merchant of LeRoy, was born in the "Old Town" of LeRoy, September 26, 1865, son of Gordon and Anna Larson, the former a native of Norway, and the latter of Denmark. Gordon Larson came to America in 1863 and located in Decorah, Iowa, where he died. His wife, Anna, came to the old town of LeRoy, after his death, and here Albert G. was born. When he was eleven years old, he left LeRoy and did not return permanently until 1891. When he was sixteen years of age, he started clerking for Smith Brothers, at Lydon, Wisconsin. Then he came to Houston, Minnesota, and clerked for Field & Briggs. Subsequently he was clerk for I. Abrahamson for three years. About this time he married Rose Williams, daughter of J. B. Williams and Elitha Gardner, his wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Larson have been born two children, Floyd J. and Marjorie E. After his marriage, Mr. Larson went into business with his father-in-law, J. B. Williams, at Yucatan, Minnesota. He became postmaster of that village, and remained two and a half years. Then, still continuing in the partnership with his father-in-law, he went to Money Creek, Minnesota, and opened a store. He became a prominent citizen, was appointed postmaster, and remained in the place twelve years. LeRoy appealed to his business judgment as a good commercial location, and accordingly he formed a partnership with C. S. Palmer and established a store here and at Chester, Iowa. Later he bought Mr. Palmer out and has since continued in business alone at LeRoy, having sold the Chester store. He conducts a modern and well-kept store, and handles a large stock of dry goods and general merchandise. Mr. Larson is a member of the Orient Lodge, No. 84, A. F. and A. M., at Money Creek, Minnesota; of LeRoy Chapter, R. A. M.; of the B. P. O. E., at Winona; of the I. O. O. F., at LeRoy, and of the M. W. A., the Eastern Star, and the Rebekah degree at LeRoy. It is worthy of note that Mr. Larson has been a successful merchant for over twenty-five years and his father-in-law, J. B. Williams, for over forty-five years.

William McFarland, now of Austin, was for many years a

prosperous farmer in Nevada township. He was born in Illinois, November 20, 1849, son of Jonathan and Cinthia A. (Trout) McFarland, the former of Scotch and the latter of Dutch descent, both being born in Ohio. He left Illinois with his parents at the age of six years, and the family then settled in Delaware county, Iowa, moving after a short time to Mitchell county, Iowa, and then in 1857 to Nevada township, this county, which at that early date had been but recently settled. William grew to manhood on the farm, worked with his father for a time, then bought and still continued on the home place after his father had moved to Oregon, remaining on the farm twenty-eight years. He is now engaged in repairing and looking after the county bridges. March 18, 1874, he married Ella H. Bowen, born June 16, 1852, in Vermont, daughter of Mark and Sarah L. (Harris) Bowen, the former of Welsh and the latter of English descent, both being born in Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. William McFarland were the parents of four children, Mark B, deceased; Albert J.; Nellie C., deceased; and Sadie A. Albert J., who, with his father, has various interests outside of his road and bridge repairing, married Winifred Ballard, of Kansas, and they have one child, William H. Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan McFarland had issue as follows: James, deceased; Margaret, now Mrs. Stephen Webb, living in Illinois; John, deceased; Theisa, deceased; William, living in Austin; Lucinda, now Mrs. John Thayer, living in California; Albert, now living in Oregon; Lydia, now Mrs. Irvin Barbre, living in Oregon; Libbie, deceased, and Charles, living in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Bowen were the parents of six girls and one boy. Of these four are living: Mrs. Fanny Waldo, of Vermont; Mrs. Carrie Fairbanks, of the state of Washington; Mrs. Louise Ballard, of Kansas, and Mrs. Ella H. McFarland, of Austin, Minnesota.

Edwin Price, retired farmer, of LeRoy, was born in Shropshire, England, October 6, 1848, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Price, natives of the same shire; Thomas Price dying in 1888, and Elizabeth Price in 1886. Edwin received his early education in England, and in 1871 came to America, locating first for a few months at Portage, Wisconsin. Then he made his home at Fountain, Fillmore county, for a period of eight years, farming, threshing and working in the pine woods. Subsequently he purchased 160 acres in Jamestown township, Howard county, and to this later added an adjoining tract of 160 acres in Oakdale, making a fine farm of 320 acres, all in Iowa. On this tract he carried on general farming until November, 1901, when he retired, rented his farm and moved to LeRoy, where he purchased the home where he now resides. When conducting agricultural operations, Mr. Price made a specialty of full-blooded Poland-China hogs and Durham cattle. While in Iowa he was a member of the school board of

his township, and served two years as superintendent of roads. He has also been street commissioner in LeRoy three years. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Creamery at Bailey, Iowa, and aside from his farm in Iowa, he owns his own residence, another residence, and twenty-three building lots in the village of LeRoy. Mr. Price was married on Easter Monday, in April, 1878, at Chatfield, Fillmore county, to Sarah Linn, who died August 30, 1893, leaving six children: John, who is a railroad express clerk, lives in the state of Washington; Robert, who has passed through the chairs of the LeRoy I. O. O. F. Lodge, lives in LeRoy and is a clerk for Porter & Young; Mary L., who has held all the offices in the local Rebekah Lodge and is now recording secretary, keeps house for her father; Anna E. is a teacher at Jackson, Minnesota; Veronica H. and Joseph E. clerk in a drug store at LeRoy. They are both graduates of the LeRoy high school.

Charles A. Roy, for many years a prominent merchant of LeRoy, was actively identified with the social, business, political, civic and fraternal life of the county, and his life and character had a most salutary effect on the progress of the village. He was born in Lyndon, Illinois, February 8, 1842, son of Judge John Roy and Martha Foster Roy, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of New Hampshire, from which states they moved to Illinois at an early date. Charles A. was reared on a farm, and received a good education, being engaged in farm pursuits at the outbreak of the Civil war. When but nineteen years of age he enlisted as a bugler in McClellan's Dragoons, August 2, 1861, at Chicago. He served in the Peninsular campaign under McClellan, and saw his first service at Williamsburg, where a horse was shot under him. Mr. Roy served with the Army of the Potomac, until the fall of 1863, his last service with this army being in October of that year, around Culpepper. In this engagement he also had a horse shot under him. After this, the company was placed in the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and Mr. Roy was sent home sixty days to recruit. Then he went to St. Louis and New Orleans, and thence up the Red river to Alexandria, seeing service about the Red and Atchafalaya rivers. Then he went to New Orleans, and eventually was assigned the duty of hunting guerillas about Donaldsonville, where he was honorably discharged, August 4, 1864, reaching home, September 18 of the same year. A year later, November 30, 1865, he was married at Lyndon, Illinois, to Frances E. Lathe, daughter of Moses and Elizabeth (Rogers) Lathe, natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and New York, who located at Amboy, Lee county, Illinois, in 1848, and in Lyndon, Illinois, in 1851. Moses Lathe passing away in 1880 at the age of eighty-one years, and his wife in 1853 at the age of thirty-six years. Mrs. Roy was born in Hornby,

Steuben county, New York, August 11, 1844. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Roy spent a few years in Lyndon, and then in April, 1868, came to LeRoy, where Mr. Roy associated himself with I. Ingmandson in the tin and hardware business. The firm continued until 1871, when Mr. Ingmandson retired and Mr. Roy took over the business alone. After many years he received his son Foster L. into partnership, and the firm became C. A. Roy & Son. At the time of his death, Mr. Roy had been in continuous business in LeRoy for forty-two years. He was a member of the Masonic order, and belonged to the Knights Templar and the Eastern Star, being also a member of the G. A. R. In these orders he took an active interest, holding the highest positions in the gift of each. When the village was organized Mr. Roy was one of the committee on incorporation, and was elected first recorder, a position in which he served for many years. He was also one of the first trustees of the opera house and for several years its manager. In every way he was a most useful citizen. At the time of his death, December 5, 1910, he left besides his widow, four children: Mrs. Mabel R. Coffeen, of Westboro, Massachusetts; C. L., a prominent clothing merchant of LeRoy; Foster L., a hardware merchant of LeRoy, and Frank V., of Springfield, Missouri. The widow of the subject of this sketch is one of four children: Sarah L., deceased; Mrs. C. A. Roy; Wilhelmina, now Mrs. Quackenbush, of Seattle, Washington; and Charles, of Illinois. Mr. Roy was a member of the school board for a good many years and was president of that body at the time of the building of the new school.

Harry N. Sargeant was one of the pioneers of the town which perpetuates his name, was the first clerk of the town on its organization, and held that position for many years. He was also the chairman of the meeting which was called September 16, 1873, at his home, for the purpose of organizing what is now the town of Sargeant. Harry N. Sargeant was born in South Stukely, Shefford county, Province of Quebec, June 19, 1817, son of Roswell and Phoebe (Allen) Sargeant, both natives of Vermont, who located in Canada in 1800, and there ended their days. The subject of this sketch was reared to agricultural pursuits, and in early life, December 22, 1838, married Anna Parker, who was born in Canada, December 22, 1821. The young couple lived on the old homestead in Canada, until 1858, when they went to Oak Grove, Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they purchased a farm. March 1, 1864, Mrs. Sargeant died, and just one year later her husband sold out and started for Mower county, going to La Crosse by land, by team across the river, and by the same conveyance to the south half of section 11, township 104, range 16, where he had purchased land the previous year. At that time sixty

acres were under cultivation, and a small frame house had been erected on the southeast quarter. Mr. Sargeant developed and improved the land in many ways, and successfully carried on farming operations, attaining honor and distinction. In addition to being town clerk he also served as school clerk and postmaster. The subject of this sketch married Anna, daughter of Nathan and Elizabeth (Willard) Parker, and eight children were born: Roxana, Harriet P., Alice L., Eliza W., Harry A., Malcolm, George W. and Edwin J. Roxana is the deceased wife of Charles Owen. Harriet, the housekeeper after her mother's death, died in 1909. The influence of her pure, unselfish life lives in those who knew her best. Alice married William Hambright. Eliza is a well-known school teacher. She was born in Canada, received her early education in the district schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and then graduated from the State Normal school at Winona. She taught for a while in Northfield, but most of her educational work has been done in District 91, Sargeant township, where she was employed as the first teacher after the organization of the school district, beginning that term in her father's corn-crib, the new schoolhouse not being completed. At the close of two weeks both teacher and pupils were glad to move to more commodious quarters. The whole period of her service covers some twenty years. Malcolm married Maria Harrington, of Red Rock township. They reside in Wyndmere, North Dakota. George W. married Belle Lewis, of North Dakota. They resided in that state for several years, but are now living in Lodi, California. Edwin J. married Agnes Keef, of Minneapolis. They with their two sons, Cedric, and Norman, remained on the old homestead until the fall of 1910, when they moved to Kasson, Minnesota, where the boys are attending school.

Harry A. Sargeant, now of Northfield, Minnesota, was for many years a prominent man in Sargeant township. He was born in South Stukely, Quebec, Canada, May 26, 1855, son of Harry N. and Anna (Parker) Sargeant. He went to Wisconsin with his parents when three years old, and came to Mower county with his father when ten years old. January 24, 1884, he married Anna Johnson, a native of Wisconsin. He became prominent in town affairs, and served as justice of the peace, assessor and town clerk. Their children are Nathaniel J., Arthur P., Howard L., and Willard H. The parents moved to Northfield in 1906, for the purpose of giving their sons better educational advantages. Arthur P. was a student at Carleton College three years, and is now taking the medical course at our state university. Howard L. is a senior at Carleton. Willard H., many years younger than his brothers, is in the Northfield public school.

Nathaniel Sargeant is a prosperous farmer of Sargeant town-

ship, which was named for his grandfather. He was born in section 11, Sargeant township, son of Harry A. and Anna (Johnson) Sargeant. He received his early education in the schools of his neighborhood and graduated from the Stewartville High school. Since then he has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits. He married Clara, daughter of John and Mary (Milligan) Gordy, and they have two children: Florence and Olive.

Sever Temanson, a hard-working farmer of Racine township, was born in Green county, Wisconsin, December 16, 1860, son of T. T. Omsrud and Inge Omsrud Temanson, who came to Mower county in 1866 and settled in Racine township. The father was a shoemaker and farmer, and continued these occupations until his death in 1887. The mother died in 1867. Sever was educated in the district schools and as a young man, worked out. In 1888 he purchased eighty acres in section 5, Racine township, and eighty acres in Frankford township. Here he carries on general farming, raises Durham cattle for dual purposes, and has a fine drove of Red Jersey pigs. Mr. Temanson is an independent Republican. He was road overseer one year, school director two years, school treasurer fifteen years and has served in other positions of public and private trust and honor, including two years' work as a member of the town board. He has been a director of the Grand Meadow creamery seven years and is also a director of the Farmers' store at Spring Valley. His wife, Andrine, whom he married March 18, 1886, was born June 15, 1865, and died June 21, 1907. The Temanson home has been blessed with ten children: Ida, Sanford, Ely, Mattie, Albert, Alice, Martha, Toulou, Milton and Thelma. Ida married Halvor Hanson, of Racine, and Sanford is a clerk in a store in North Dakota. The rest are at home.

Edward A. Whitcomb, the efficient and well-liked carrier on route two, out of LeRoy, was born in Walworth county, Wisconsin, October 5, 1841, son of Edward and Almira (Child) Whitcomb. He came to Minnesota with his parents in 1855, and was reared on a farm in LeRoy township, assisting his parents in breaking and developing their farm. In 1875 he took charge of the home farm, and worked this tract, which consisted of 160 acres in section 30, and 120 acres in section 20, until 1890, when he came to the old town of LeRoy and took care of his parents. Later he sold his farms, and in 1890 purchased his present comfortable home in LeRoy. February 1, 1903, he received an appointment to his present government position. Mr. Whitcomb is a veteran of the Civil war, having joined Company K, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in 1862. He served until 1864, when he reenlisted as a veteran, remaining until the close of the war. He participated in the Grand Review in Washington, was

mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and discharged at Fort Snelling in the fall of 1865. In civil life he has been no less distinguished. He has been a member of the LeRoy board of education eleven years, village marshal five years, assessor of LeRoy township several years, and secretary of the board of education in LeRoy township, district number four, many terms. He is a member of the Blue Lodge, the Chapter and the Eastern Star, in the Masons, and also a member of the G. A. R. The subject of this sketch was married, February 22, 1868, to Margaret A. Taylor, born December 5, 1840, at Ulysus, Tompkins county, New York, and this union has been blessed with three children: Frank, Ruben, and Eunice L. Frank married Anna Laws. Mrs. Whitcomb was a daughter of Ruben and Catharene (King) Taylor, natives of New York and Vermont, going to Ithaca, New York, in 1841, where Mr. Taylor engaged at fine carpenter work on ship building and finishing. In 1867 they came to Minnesota and located in the old village of LeRoy, her mother dying two months later, July 17, 1867. Mr. Taylor passed away in October, 1868.

Edward Whitcomb, the pioneer, and Almira Child, his wife, were born in Vermont, moved to New York state and then to Wisconsin. In 1855 they came to LeRoy township, arrived October 4, and located on a 120-acre timber claim two miles northwest of LeRoy village. Later they settled on a claim of 160 acres of wild land in the same township, and there farmed until about 1875, when they retired and moved to the old town of LeRoy, where both died.

Edward S. Bosworth, manager and owner of the LeRoy Electric Light plant, was born in the village where he now resides, January 14, 1871, son of Daniel and Ann (Nevins) Bosworth. He attended school in LeRoy, and after completing his schooling spent ten years of his life in northern Minnesota. In 1899 he returned to LeRoy and is now engaged in operating the electric light plant which his father started that year. Mr. Bosworth married Elizabeth Powell, daughter of Lorenzo Powell, and they have one child, Grover. The subject of this sketch is a popular member of the A. F. and A. M., and of the M. W. A.

Daniel Bosworth was one of the active business men of LeRoy for over thirty-four years. He was the son of Thomas and Harriet Bosworth, born at Great Creaton, Northamptonshire, England, April 19, 1828. He was educated in the academy of George Wills, of Narborough, in Leicestershire, and at thirteen years of age was bound an apprentice in the city of London to an architect and builder for a term of five years. After three years, however, he purchased the remainder of his time, and worked as a journeyman in various parts of England until eighteen years of age. In 1846 he with his parents moved to Granby, Oswego county, and

there Daniel followed his trade as a master builder. June 14, 1853, he married Miss L. A. Draper, born at Granby, November 19, 1833, daughter of John and Fannie Draper. She died October 26, 1855, leaving by her marriage with Mr. Bosworth one daughter, Ida L. Soon after the death of his first wife, Daniel Bosworth moved from Oswego county, New York, to Elyria, Lorain county, Ohio, in November, 1856. There he followed his trade, and there he was married November 25, 1858, to Ann E. S. Nevins, oldest daughter of Birdsey and Francis Nevins. To this union were born seven children, five boys and two girls: Harry T., William B., Hugh F., Harriet Frances, Edward Starr, Daniel W., and Lottie S. Mr. Bosworth followed his business as a builder in Elyria until October, 1862, when he enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, and served until October of the following year, when he was discharged for sickness. In May, 1864, for the benefit of his health, he came to Mower county, followed his occupation as a builder, engaged extensively in the real estate business and in other interests, and became a respected, honored and substantial citizen. He died in 1900.

Caleb Lewis, a respected citizen of LeRoy village, was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, January 8, 1830, son of John and Rebecca (Hartman) Lewis. John Lewis came from the spurs of the Green Brier mountains, in Virginia, and settled at an early day in Union township, Bartholomew county, which at that time was in a heavily wooded district, which the settlers must clear before planting crops. Caleb was born and reared in a log cabin, and remained with his parents until twenty-one years of age, when he came west, and after looking over the country, finally settled in LeRoy. He worked for Daniel Caswell and others, and after his marriage purchased a farm. He traded this farm with Daniel Caswell, for a hotel in LeRoy, and this he conducted for three years, subsequently opening a meat market, and in connection with this, dealing also in live stock. In 1880 he resumed farming on a farm of 160 acres, which he purchased in LeRoy township. Five years later he returned to the village, where he has since lived retired. Mr. Lewis was marshal of the town for five years, but aside from this he has never consented to hold public office, although often urged to do so by his friends. By his first wife, Barbara Bemis, Mr. Lewis had five children, two of whom, John and Alice, the wife of J. D. Hyatt, are living. The present Mrs. Lewis was Margaret Sutton, a native of Wisconsin. This union has been blessed with seven children, of whom four, James, Estella, Leah and Edna, are living. The family stands well in the community, and is always to be depended upon to take its share in every good work.

George H. Herzog, of the firm of Lovell & Herzog, auctioneers, was born in Austin, August 24, 1873, son of Henry and Aggathie (Fischer) Herzog, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Germany. Henry Herzog located in Austin about 1865 and engaged in the carpenter department of the C., M. & St. P. Ry., with which company he still remains, having the unusual record of forty-six years' continuous service in one employ. George H. received his education in the public schools of Austin, and after reaching manhood's estate engaged in farming. In 1893 he took up the machinery business and was on the road as a traveling salesman three years. Then he became a salesman for the Parsons Self-feeding and Band Cutter Company, of Neibo, Iowa and continued in this employ until 1902, when he again went on the road as a traveling salesman for three years. Then after farming in South Dakota for two years he returned to Austin and engaged in the retail and jobbing business with A. B. Lovell. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the M. W. A., votes the Republican ticket and attends the Catholic church. The subject of this sketch was married November 16, 1898, to Fannie B. Guthrie, and two children have blessed this union: Vern D., born May 2, 1909, and Ruth, who died in infancy.

Ole G. Anderson is one of the well-known Norwegian-Americans of Mower county, and only his extreme modesty and reluctance to enter the field of politics has kept him from positions of high political preferment. He was born in Norway, October 11, 1849, and came to America alone, arriving in Austin in 1871. After making inquiries for work he continued on his way to Lansing, and started work by the month. In 1875 he purchased forty acres of land, where he has since resided, owning 160 acres of good land in Lansing township. Mr. Anderson was married in June, 1876, to Telda Nelson, daughter of Ole Nelson, who was one of the pioneers of Lansing. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are as follows: Mollie, now Mrs. George E. Anderson, of Austin; Otto; Serena, now Mrs. A. Peterson; Emma, now Mrs. C. J. Johnson; Ernest and Clarence (twins), and Lawrence. Mr. Anderson and his family occupy a position of trust and honor in the community.

Richard P. Maxfield, liveryman of LeRoy for thirty years, was born in Wayne county, New York, in November, 1853, and came to Washington county, Wisconsin, with his parents at the age of six months. The family located in section 36, LeRoy township, in 1862, and here, Richard P., who was the youngest of six, was reared to young manhood, remaining on the home farm until twenty years of age. Then he went to South Dakota and took up land, but a year and a half later returned and engaged in his present business. Mr. Maxfield married Manie A., daughter of

John R. and Catherine Blaemer, and they are the parents of three children: Miles W., David C., and Catherine. It is worthy of note that the great-great-grandfather of Richard P. Maxfield came from Scotland in the latter part of the eighteenth century.

Edward Erickson, one of the leading farmers of Frankford township, was born January 18, 1873, only son of Erick and Esther (Olson) Erickson. He received his education in the district schools, and then took up farming with his parents. A few years before his father's death he took charge of the home farm, and since that date has conducted agricultural operations in a successful manner. He is a Republican in politics, has been clerk of school district 19 for the past six years, and is a stockholder in the Farmers' Coöperative Creamery Company, of Grand Meadow. Mr. Erickson was married September 19, 1901, at the Bear Creek church in Frankford, to Nellie Julson, born in Frankford township, September 22, 1878, daughter of Nels and Betsy (Hansen) Julsen. This union has been blessed with six children: Alice, born April 5, 1902; Benice, born May 29, 1903; Ernest B., born March 15, 1906; Norman J., born August 26, 1907; Clifford G., born January 5, 1910; Ervin J., born January 11, 1911.

Erick O. Erickson was born in Norway, and as a young man came to America. He was married at Grand Meadow, this county, to Esther Olson. They purchased eighty acres in section 17, Frankford township, and later added another eighty. On this tract they continued to carry on general farming the remainder of their lives, Erick dying March 29, 1908, and his wife January 18, 1901.

Nels Julsen was born in Norway, and married Betsy Hansen, also a native of that country, the ceremony being performed in Grand Meadow, this county. After their marriage they purchased eighty acres in section 18, Frankford township, and later forty more, until they owned 120 acres, on which they conducted general farming. Nels died August 1, 1909, and since then his wife has erected a new home in Grand Meadow village, where she now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Julsen were the parents of ten children: Lena is dead; Christine is the wife of Julius Finhart, of Grand Meadow; Julia is the wife of Edward Hovda, of Plaza, North Dakota; Gunwald and Casper also live in Plaza; Nellie is Mrs. Edward Erickson, of Frankford; Hannah is Mrs. Elvin Florand, of Grand Meadow village; Oscar lives in Plaza, North Dakota; Alma is the wife of John Higgins, also of Plaza; Ella is at home with her mother.

Allen G. Dalen, a prosperous farmer of Racine township, has been a prominent man in the community, and has assisted in the upbuilding of this part of the county in various ways. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, February 13, 1852, son of Gulick

and Carrie (Moan) Dalen, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1850, located in Wisconsin for four years and then came to Mower county and purchased 160 acres of land in section 5, Racine, at \$2 per acre, ending their days on this farm, the father in 1884 and the mother in 1885. Allen G. was educated in the country schools of Racine and assisted his parents until twenty-five years of age, at which time he purchased eighty acres in Clayton township. Five years later he purchased 120 acres adjoining his father's place in Racine, and four years later took charge of the home place, where he now lives. Mr. Dalen assisted in starting the Grand Meadow creamery, and has made a specialty of raising Durham cattle for dairy purposes. He is an independent Republican, and has served as town supervisor sixteen years and as clerk of his school district twelve years. He has been director of the Bear Creek Lutheran church fourteen years and treasurer six years. He is also president of the Farmers' Store Company, of Spring Valley, and a trustee of the Grand Meadow Coöperative Telephone Company. Aside from these interests he has operated a threshing machine for many years, and has purchased successively six different threshing outfits, each one being better and more modern than the one before. The subject of this sketch was married June 12, 1877, to Eliza Dickens, of Fillmore county, and this union has been blessed with seven children: Gilbert, Edwin, Alma, Christina, Matilda, Rosella and Selmer. Gilbert is in Minneapolis; Edwin farms a part of his father's land; Alma married Hans Wagoner, of Grand Meadow, and the rest are at home.

John E. Chaffee, the genial proprietor of the hotel at Lansing village, was born in Lamartine township, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, in November, 1849, son of Ithamer Stone and Eliza (Hall) Chaffee. Ten years ago he came to the picturesque village of Lansing, and has since successfully conducted an excellent hotel. The place is homelike and pleasant, and guests are sure of a cordial welcome and a good meal. Mr. Chaffee married Jessie Bassett, daughter of John and Olive (Jackson) Bassett, and they have six children: Guy, Nettie, Maude, Ray, Roy and Reed. Guy lives in Freeborn county; Nettie married George S. LaBarr and they have one child, Clinton; Maude married Lee O. Thompson; Ray married Hulda Hale and they have one child, John. Roy married Nellie Vaughan, and they have one child. Ithamer Stone Chaffee was born in Berkshire township, Vermont, in 1827, the youngest of seven children. He married Eliza Hall. He came west in 1849, located in Lamartine, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin, and lived there until the spring of 1851, when he went to Newton township, where he ended his days, in 1877. His wife died in 1894. They were the parents of three children: Julius,

John E. and Ella L. Julius died in 1860 and Ella L., the wife of J. S. Sweeney, died at Freeport, Illinois.

Henry Beach, a respectable farmer of Bennington township, was born in Portage, Wisconsin, May 5, 1854, son of William and Mollie Beach, both natives of Germany, who came to America in 1850, and to Minnesota in 1861, settling in Bennington township, this county, where William is still living, Mollie Beach having died in March, 1911. Henry was educated in the schools of his neighborhood and remained at home until twenty-seven years of age, when he began renting land for himself. Later he purchased 120 acres in section 12, Bennington township, where he now conducts general farming. He is a Democrat in politics, and has been road overseer for some terms. Mr. Beach was married October 1, 1886, to Minnie Swan Puntam, of Bloomfield, this state, and they have had four children: One died in early childhood in 1905; William is married and devotes his life to farming; Loudie lives in Mower county, and Walter is at home. The family faith is that of the Lutheran church.

Sam Start, a prosperous and representative citizen of Bennington township, was born in Iowa county, Wisconsin, April 23, 1870, son of John and Christina (Forthum) Start. He received a limited district school education, and at eighteen years of age started out in life for himself by purchasing 160 acres in Howard county, Iowa. After eight months he sold this place, making \$800 on the transaction. He then purchased eighty acres in section 32, Bennington township, this county. To this tract he has added from time to time until he now owns 400 acres, all in Bennington township, 160 acres being in section 32 and 240 in section 29. This land is all in tillable condition, and Mr. Start has made many improvements, as well as erected many new buildings. He now follows diversified farming, raising grain and breeding live stock. He has a fine herd of about one hundred head of Herford cattle and a large drove of Chester White hogs. Mr. Start is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Lutheran church. He was married June 19, 1894, to Minnie Johnson, and they have four children: Lulu, Carl, Sanford and Lloyd.

John Start was born in Norway, and married Christina Forthum. They came to America and located in Iowa for a while, living there until 1878, when they took up their residence in the old town of LeRoy, where they remained a year. Then they rented land until 1882, when they purchased eighty acres in section 29, Bennington township, and followed general farming until John's death in 1894. His wife now lives in McIntyre, Iowa.

Carl H. F. Ziemer, for some thirty years an honored resident of Waltham, was an honest, honorable, hard-working man, and left a goodly heritage of integrity to his children and descend-



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE ZIEMER.

ants. His death, which took place in 1911, was sincerely mourned by the community at large as well as by his large family of five sons, four daughters, forty-one grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and two brothers and one sister. Carl H. F. Ziemer was born September 29, 1833, at Nadelfitz, Pomonia, Germany, and was ten years of age when brought to America by his parents, who settled in Kirchhayn, Wisconsin, ten miles from Milwaukee. He grew to manhood there and was married at that place November 2, 1855, to Bertha Koepke. In 1881 they came to Waltham, with their family, and purchased twenty-four acres a mile north of the village of Waltham, where the subject of this sketch carried on farming until his death, March 8, 1911, at the age of seventy-seven years, five months and nine days. His children are as follows: George, Frank, Henry and John, of Waltham; Alfred, of Austin; Mrs. F. C. Garbish, Mrs. John Lewis, and Mrs. Otto Kuchenbecker, of Waltham; and Mrs. Henry Pluckhan, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

George Ziemer, furniture dealer and druggist, of Waltham village, as well as secretary of the Waltham creamery, was born at Jackson, Washington county, Wisconsin, August 29, 1858, son of Charles H. and Bertha (Koepke) Ziemer. He received his education in Wisconsin and there grew to manhood, after which he served three years as an apprentice and worked as a carpenter. In 1878 he came to Waltham, purchased a quarter section in the township, erected necessary buildings and following general farming for about four years. Later he went to Brownsdale, and resumed his trade as a carpenter, at the same time engaging in the furniture business. His abilities were similarly employed in Waltham village, to which he moved in 1881. In 1890, however, he gave up his trade, and has since continued in the furniture business. About 1891 he purchased the lumber and coal business at Waltham from Moses Boliou, and conducted this until 1899, when he sold to J. C. Brainerd & Son, of Blooming Prairie. In 1904 he added a drug department to his business. Mr. Ziemer has been active in township and village affairs. He served as treasurer of the township of Waltham ten years, and at the incorporation of the village in 1898 was one of the incorporators. He was elected trustee of the village at that time and has since served with much credit. He is secretary of the Waltham Co-operative Creamery Association, a position he has held for five years; is a stockholder and director in the Farmers' Co-operative store at Waltham; is agent for several insurance companies, and aside from the old homestead in Waltham township, he owns 120 acres in Crow Wing county, Minnesota. Mr. Ziemer was married June 13, 1880, to Emma Mayer, and this union has been blessed with nine children: Lydia married John Buck, of Waltham vil-

lage; Louis H. graduated from the Martin Luther Seminary at Buffalo, New York, and is now a Lutheran preacher at Defiance, Ohio; Henry graduated from the Concordia Seminary, and is now a Lutheran preacher at St. Louis, Mo.; Clara M. is a book-keeper for her father; Arthur lives with his parents; Paul is on the old homestead; George is an architect and mechanical engineer at Minneapolis; Ernest and Elmora are at home.

Alva S. Wheelock, carpenter of Rose Creek, was born at Port Leyden, New York, January 12, 1864, son of Dr. Obadiah and Celesta (Seymour) Wheelock. He came west with his parents, June 22, 1872, and spent his early life on a farm near Rose Creek. At the age of twenty-one he learned the carpenter trade, and followed it for seven years in Minneapolis. He has since continued to reside in Rose Creek. He is a respected citizen and belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the Degree of Honor. He married Annie Lewis, and they have one child, Lotta.

Obadiah Wheelock, M. D., an early physician of Rose Creek, was born in New Haven, Oswego county, New York, July 20, 1828. He received a good education, taught school, studied medicine, and in 1863 graduated from the Metropolitan Medical College in New York city. After practicing in New York state for a while, he came to Mower county and settled in the northwest quarter of section 35, Windom township. This land had been in his possession some fourteen years, but was without improvements when he arrived. He was married in 1856 to Celesta S. Seymour, who was born at Turin, Lewis county, New York, in December, 1827. Six children were born: Robin S., Henry L., Emerson W., Alva S., Charles E., and Philip.

Fred H. Schroeder, of Racine village, assessor of Racine township, as he has been for the past seven years, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, February 15, 1853, son of Fred and Paulina Schroeder, who in 1864 brought him to Racine township, where they purchased 160 acres south of the village. He received his education in the common schools of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and as a young man, rented land for two years. Then he purchased 120 acres. He made many improvements and conducted general farming, gradually turning his attention to dairying. In 1910 he sold his farm and moved to the village, where he now has a comfortable dwelling and four acres of land. Mr. Schroeder is a Republican in politics, and has served the town as chairman three years. He was married in October, 1899, to Mary Schiess, of Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder attend the Evangelical

Sherman Page. It is not the purpose of this history to give at length the story of those incidents which disrupted Mower county and so greatly retarded her progress during the years from 1867 to 1881, generally known as the Page era. Sherman Page was

born in Vermont and came to Mower county from Decorah, Iowa. Before that he had lived in Lancaster, Wisconsin. Possibly a true estimate of the man Page will never be made. In personal appearance he is a well built, strong man of imposing presence, carrying with him, everywhere, a look of dignity which commanded the respect of the masses with whom he associated himself. He was a shrewd, forcible and pleasant speaker, as well as a sarcastic, vigorous writer. He also was possessed of a remarkable, well trained mind. His political career here started when he became county superintendent of schools. Soon thereafter and for many years, the county was divided into the Page and anti-Page factions. The fight was bitter and personal, and kept the county in a turmoil. It extended not only into politics, but into church and social life. His controversy over school matters, his historic tearing up of the sidewalks, his arrest, his arrogant assumption of authority in the temperance fight, his election to the judgeship and his impeachment are touched upon elsewhere. He ruled with the despotism of a Russian monarch. Those who were not for him, he considered his enemies. There was no half way course. He removed from office those who would not bend to his will. He decided cases to suit his prejudice, regardless of law or justice. At last he was tried for misconduct on the bench. The lower house of the Minnesota legislature prepared articles of impeachment, but the vote in the upper house lacked the two-thirds majority necessary to convict. At the next election he again ran for office, but was defeated by John Q. Farmer, of Spring Valley. But the fight was not ended. Some time thereafter he was shot at while reading in his home. Again the courts were occupied with Page matters. But the alleged assailant was acquitted and the Page influence waned. In 1882 Judge Page removed to California. There he became a prominent citizen, although he in no ways abandoned his arrogant character. He now lives in retirement, but though he is now of venerable age, the papers still tell of his broils with his neighbors. Thus loved by his friends, feared by many, and hated by some, lives the man who will never be forgotten in Mower county. Whether his influence was for good or ill, only future generations can tell.

O. J. Simmons. It has been said that the man who conducts a model office and gives the best possible service to the public is a man possessed of all the attributes that are necessary to conduct any other business successfully. He is the man who can look at every question that arises and see both sides of it. He is one who takes all the facts into consideration before rendering a decision. He is one who sets a proper example for the employes under his supervision and then requires them to perform their duties in a thorough going and businesslike manner. He requires the proper

discipline to maintain a high standard of efficiency, and treats each case of violation or infraction of the rules on its merits and without regard to who the individual may be. He must show some interest in the welfare of the employes and encourage them whenever he can if he expects to have them exert themselves when occasion requires for the exigencies of the service demand it. In postoffices where the postmaster possesses these qualifications and puts them into practical effect, the service is always satisfactory to the public, the postmaster and the employes work in perfect harmony, and, as a rule, the office is looked upon and referred to as a model one. Such a man is O. J. Simmons, postmaster at Austin. He was born in Rush county, Indiana, November 10, 1857, son of Joseph and Frances (Wilson) Simmons, of honored memory. In July, 1874, O. J. came to Minnesota with his parents, and after living in Rochester a year, came with them to Dexter. Like other boys of his period and circumstances, he attended school and worked on the farm. At the age of twenty-two he started work in a store in the village of Dexter, and later went to Rochester, and engaged in the insurance business. Later he returned to Dexter and conducted a hotel. He was later elected clerk of court for Mower county, and served from 1895 to 1907. March, 1907, was the date of his appointment as postmaster. In 1911 he was reappointed. Mr. Simmons is a staunch Republican, and it goes without saying that he has occupied many offices in the places wherein he has resided. He has been delegate to political conventions, and is now chairman of the Republican county central committee. In fraternal circles he is no less prominent. He has occupied offices in practically all the leading lodges in Austin, and is as well, a chapter Mason. He has been through the chairs of the Elks, Knights of Pythias and other orders, and has been delegate to many fraternal conventions. From July, 1904, to July, 1905, he was district deputy grand exalted ruler for the southern district of Minnesota in the B. P. O. E. under Grand Exalted Ruler J. O'Brien. The subject of this sketch was married February 17, 1881, to Mary W. Swan, daughter of Robert and Mary W. (Brooke) Swan.

John Rahilly, now deceased, was an Irish-American gentleman of the old school, and became one of the leading farmers in Mower county as well as one of the largest land holders. He was born in County Clare, Ireland, and came to America with his parents in 1849. After living in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, for seven years, they located in Olmsted county, Minnesota, and there John spent his early manhood. In 1880 he came to Grand Meadow township, and settled in section 31, where he purchased 640 acres of land. This tract he improved, erected a large house and commodious barns, and carried on general farming until his death,

January 5, 1898. Mr. Rahilly was well and favorably known throughout the county. He was a man of many good qualities, and was noted for his generosity, hospitality and good cheer. A capable business man, he was very successful in the management of his business and his happy, cheerful disposition made him a pleasant companion and friend. The subject of this sketch married Ellen Twohey, who was born in County Cork, Ireland, was brought to Canada by her parents, came to the United States and lived in Iowa, subsequently moving with them to Olmsted county, this state, and settling some seven miles south of Rochester. Mr. and Mrs. Rahilly are the parents of nine children, six of whom are living. The children living are: Catherine, wife of Alexander McDowell; Susie C., wife of Patrick McGrevy; Hannah, wife of Henry Weber, Jr.; John H., living on the home farm; William P., who is married and lives on a farm near Dexter, and Richard, who is married and lives near Austin.

John H. Rahilly, chairman of Grand Meadow township, is the son of John Rahilly and Ellen Twohey, his wife. He lives on and operates the home farm, which contains 1,000 acres, one of the finest places in the county. The farm is fenced, tilled and in a very high state of cultivation, having an excellent set of buildings, surrounded by a large cottonwood grove. The farm house is now being remodeled, and all the modern improvements, such as hot water heat, and gas for lighting and cooking are being installed. When the work is completed the house will be one of the finest farm residences in southern Minnesota. On this farm are kept about fifty head of horses, 200 head of cattle and about 200 head of hogs, the latter of which are fattened and shipped to market. John H. and his brother, at the death of their father, took charge of the home farm, and since then two more farms have been purchased and added to the original one until now the farm is a very valuable piece of real estate. John H. is at present chairman of Grand Meadow township, one of the directors of the Mower County Fair Association, secretary and director of the Mower County Farmers' Telephone Company, and an officer of his school district. He has also taken an active part in the affairs of the church at Grand Meadow and is one of its trustees.

Andrew D. Brown, a territorial pioneer, with his brother, Hosmer A., came to Minnesota in 1856, and founded the town of Brownsdale. Mr. Brown, who four times circumnavigated the globe, was born in North Stonington, Connecticut, in 1818, in the old homestead which had been in the possession of the family since the seventeenth century. He became master of a ship sailing to the East Indies, but in 1849 he went with the gold rush to California, where he established a trading post and prospered. After returning to Connecticut, for several years he located in Minne-

sota, and with his brother, Hosmer A. Brown, founded the town of Brownsdale, where he lived until five years ago, when he moved to Minneapolis. He was married to Adeline Portlo, of Deerfield, Massachusetts, in 1854. Mr. Brown engaged in the lumber and milling industry and became the owner of large tracts of land. He married Melissa E. Bacon, of Brownsdale, in 1871, four years after the death of his first wife. Mr. Brown is survived by a wife, and four children: Mrs. C. D. Holbrook, Brownsdale; Mrs. T. E. Doolittle, North Platte, Nebraska; Mrs. L. W. Powers, and Hosmer A. Brown, of Minneapolis; and a brother, Hosmer A. Brown, Brownsdale. He died in Minneapolis in May, 1911, and is buried in Brownsdale.

Herbert L. Banfield, assistant cashier and director of the First National Bank of Austin, was born in Medford, Massachusetts, August 28, 1868, son of Francis Loring and Sarah Elizabeth Banfield. He was educated in Wolfsborough, New Hampshire, and Worcester, Massachusetts, completing his early education in the high school of the latter city. February 27, 1886, he came from Worcester to Austin, and at once took up work with the First National Bank, with which institution he has now served for twenty-five years. Mr. Banford also served as treasurer of the city of Austin three terms. He was married June 15, 1894, to Addie Marie Cook, who died June 13, 1903. He has three children: Adelaide Cook Banfield, aged nine years; Herbert Loring Banfield, Jr., aged seven years, and Edward Sanborn Banfield, aged four years. Francis Loring Banfield is a physician and surgeon of Worcester, Massachusetts. Ira Banfield, father of Francis L., and grandfather of Herbert L., is now living at Wolfsborough, New Hampshire, at the age of ninety-two years, having retired some years ago, owing to advancing years, from the position of treasurer of the Wolfsborough Savings Bank. Herbert L. Banfield, the subject of this sketch, has made a hobby of dairying, and owns a model dairy farm near the city of Austin.

Arthur West Allen, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Mower county, was born in Austin in 1862, son of Austin's first physician, Orlenzer Allen, M. D., and Esther Almeda Allen, his wife, who settled in Austin in May, 1856, and whose good deeds will ever be remembered in this county. Dr. A. W. Allen was reared in Austin and graduated from the Rush Medical College, Chicago, in the class of 1885. Since then he has been in continuous practice in Austin. He is a member of the American, Minnesota and Mower County Medical Associations, and in the latter has held various offices. He also belongs to the American Railway Surgeons, and to the Elks, Masons and other fraternal bodies. He is the surgeon of the Southern Minnesota and Iowa and Minnesota divisions of the C., M. & St. Paul Ry., and also

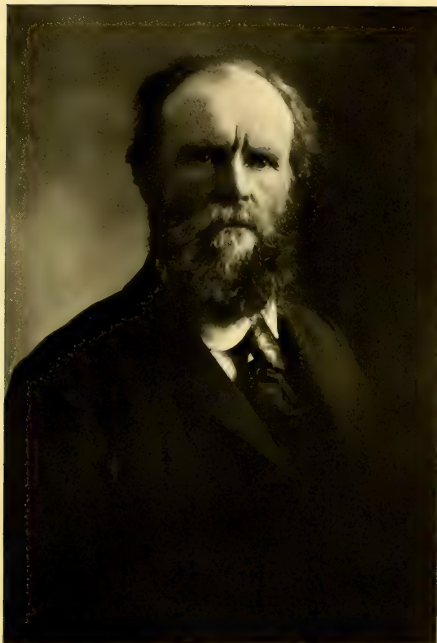
of St. Olav Hospital. For nine years he was surgeon major of the Second Regiment, Minnesota National Guards. For the past two years he has been president of the Austin Commercial Club. Dr. Allen is a man who will not accept the praise offered him, but his true worth is written in the hearts of the people to whom he has ministered. He is a good citizen, and a skilled practitioner. His wife, Nellie C., to whom he was married in 1905, is also a native of Austin.

Alvah F. Stiles, druggist of Racine village, was born in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, January 26, 1862, son of William L. and Betsy E. (Hummison) Stiles, and a year later was brought by them to Mower county, where he was reared to manhood. At the age of twenty-one he started working out, and later in life went to Minneapolis and took a course in the Minnesota Institute of Pharmacy. After coming to Racine he entered business in partnership with A. W. Brown. This partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, and then Mr. Stiles erected a building and engaged in the drug business. In February, 1908, the building was burned, entailing a heavy loss. However, Mr. Stiles at once rebuilt and now has a fine brick block, which serves the purpose of store and residence. The subject of this sketch has been a member of the school board for nearly twenty years. He is a Mason, and a member of the B. A. Y. and the M. W. A. He was married April 20, 1891, to Grace E. Turner, daughter of Edward Turner, and this union has been blessed with four children: Luella, Sylvia I., Lester, and Kenneth. William L. and Betsy E. (Hummison) Stiles were born in Vermont, lived some years in Wisconsin, and in 1863 came to Mower county and located in section 24, Pleasant Valley township. W. L. Stiles is dead and his wife is still living.

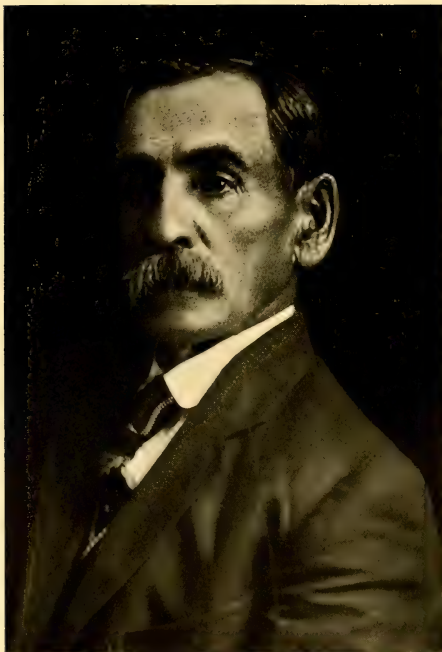
George A. Franklin, superintendent of schools in Austin, was born in Rockford, Illinois, son of Stephen R. and Ann E. (Gillis) Franklin. He received a public school education and later attended the Illinois Normal University. He worked at the printing business a while, and served as superintendent of public schools in Delevan, Illinois, from 1888 to 1894. Then he came to Minnesota, and from 1894 to 1906 was superintendent of schools in Faribault. Since 1906 he has served in Austin, and his work has given general satisfaction. Professor Franklin ranks high as an educator. He has been justice of the peace and county superintendent in Winnebago county, Iowa. In 1904 he served as president of the State Teachers' Association of Minnesota. At one time he served as president of the Southeastern Association and he was also president of the Southern Association one term. For the past six years he has done summer school work and is a member of the faculty of the State Normal School at Mankato. He is a chapter Mason

and also belongs to other societies. For one year he was vice president of the Austin Commercial Club, of which he is still a member. Professor Franklin was married February 28, 1884, to Emma Jenkins. She died June 26, 1896, leaving three children. Professor Franklin was married the second time, August 15, 1900, to Annie M. Willson, of Rochester, Minnesota. The children of the Franklin family are as follows: Joy E., was born September 13, 1888, and is a graduate of the University of Chicago; Camilla, is a student at Menominee, Wisconsin; G. Fred, was born August 31, 1892, and is a graduate of the Austin high school; Charles Willson was born August 15, 1900, and attends the public schools of Austin.

Hans J. Hansen, a progressive and popular farmer of Adams township, was born in Norway, August 30, 1846, and there received his early education. At the age of fourteen he became an apprentice in one of the largest machine shops in the city of Bergen, for four years. At the age of eighteen he, with his parents, sister and brother, immigrated to America, and left Bergen Harbor June 5, 1864. After a voyage of six weeks and two days they entered the harbor of Quebec, Canada, and from there went up the St. Lawrence river and via Montreal to Chicago and McGregor. He came to Calmar, Iowa, August 13, 1864. During the fall and winter he worked at his trade in Decorah and Calmar. In the spring of 1865 he went to Chicago, and from there to Muskegon, Mich., where he worked for two months in Foster's mill on Black river. From there he went back to Chicago, where he located and worked at his trade in the Union wagon works, corner of Canal and Adams street. In November, 1867, he came to Adams, Minnesota, and worked at his trade in partnership with his father, who built the first shop on the southwest corner of Main and Fourth streets, and was the first blacksmith in the village of Adams in the fall and winter of 1867-68. In the spring of 1868 he filed on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 19 and built the first little frame house on that prairie in the fall of that year. He purchased this eighty acres at \$9 per acre from the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad company, then called the Minnesota Central. May 8, 1868, he hired to Wagonmaker William I. Brown, of Austin, and was the first blacksmith that worked in his new built shop at the corner of Bridge and St. Paul street, where the new federal building is now located, opposite the Lutheran church. While working for Mr. Brown he ironed the wagon that took the first premium at the first county fair held in Mower county. He was married December 27, 1869, to Emma Petersen, a native of Norway, in the Little Cedar log church, by Pastor C. L. Clausen, "the first minister who preached the gospel for the pioneers." This union has been blessed with nine children,



H. J. HANSEN



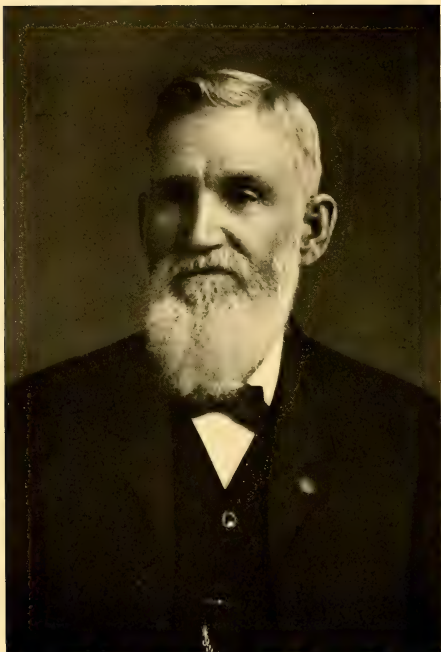
G. H. ALLEN.

four girls and five boys, of whom eight, three girls and five boys, survive. They are: Minnie B., Oscar B., Kathinka S., Peter C., Herman A., George E., Nellie R., and Gustav W. The four oldest are married. The husband of Minnie Bertha is a merchant tailor of Wahpeton, North Dakota; Oscar B. is a blacksmith at Hartford, South Dakota; Kathinka Sophie is the wife of Nels N. Bergheim, an attorney at law of Little Falls, Minnesota. Peter Cornelius is a merchant in Carver, Minnesota. In 1911 the rest of the children are unmarried. Mr. Hanson worked at his trade in Austin, besides for Brown, for Bates Bros., and G. K. Hanson, builders of wagons and carriages. In the spring of 1874 he sold his property, house and lot, to Solner & Morgan, of Austin, and moved on the farm, where he still resides. He has from time to time added to his farm until he now owns 280 acres, which constitute one of the excellent farms in southern Minnesota. On this tract which he acquired as prairie land, he has erected a good dwelling house, fine barn, sheds, and in fact all necessary buildings for housing of his stock, crops, and abundant equipment of tools and machinery. His house is supplied with telephone and other conveniences, which go to make up the comforts of a modern dwelling. Being a public-spirited man, Mr. Hanson has felt the necessity of making use of the facilities, which keep him abreast of the times, and in touch with the business world. He is a staunch Republican and of the progressive type. He has been repeatedly honored by public office. For six years he was town supervisor, eighteen years justice of the peace, nine years town clerk, and for several years has held his present office of town treasurer. He has been secretary of the Nevada Co-operative Creamery Association since its organization and commencement of business, April 6, 1894, and still holds the office. He is a member of the Lutheran church, and joined the Little Cedar congregation in May, 1874, and with characteristic energy has assisted in the advancement of the congregation, as being a hard worker in the church, holding the following offices of trust in continuance: trustee and treasurer. He was first elected superintendent of the Sunday school, and since 1884 has been the secretary and still holds that office. For the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Little Cedar Lutheran congregation, which took place November 26, 1909, he wrote the history of the Little Cedar Settlement, and the congregation, and had it printed and bound in book form, out of gratitude to the settlement and church that he loved.

G. H. Allen, retired merchant and railroad civil engineer, now living in Austin, was born in Greenfield, Saratoga county, New York, October 12, 1834. There he received his education and grew to manhood. He was reared on a farm and in his early life learned civil engineering, a profession he followed thereafter for several

years. At twenty-two years of age, in 1853, he went to Freeport, Illinois, and worked on the railroad from Freeport to Savanna, surveying the roadbed. From there he went to McGregor, Iowa, on the C., M. & St. P. He then returned to New York state and worked on the Albany & Susquehanna, later on the Middleburg and Schoharie. After this he worked on the Oswego (New York) Midland, then on the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis. His last railroad surveying was on the C., M. & St. P. from Dubuque to LaCrosse. In 1874 he came to Mower county, locating in Grand Meadow, and together with his brother, George W., engaged in the general mercantile business. This they conducted for about five years. That same year he was made county surveyor, and held the office continuously until 1893, and again in 1897. He also owned and conducted a 200-acre farm in Grand Meadow township until coming to Austin in 1900. At that time he purchased some land on College street and built his pleasant home, where he has since lived in retirement, except for two years that he served the city of Austin as city engineer. He still owns eighty acres of his farm in Grand Meadow township, which he rents. Mr. Allen married Mary A. Specht, daughter of John W. Specht, who was a farmer by occupation, and who built the first frame house in Dubuque, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have one daughter, Jessie, who is the wife of Dr. Homer F. Peirson. Dr. and Mrs. Peirson have two children, Helen and Marion.

Luther N. Griffith, better known as "Squire Griffith," is one of the venerable figures of Mower county. He came here with the early settlers and has lived through the greater part of the stirring events which have gone to make up Mower county history. Although well past the four score mark, he is still hale and hearty and venerated alike by old and young. He was born in Pike, Allegany county, New York, November 18, 1824, son of Ebenezer Griffith, a pioneer, sheriff and hotel keeper of Ohio. L. N. received a good education in public and select schools, farmed a while and then engaged in the hotel business in Elyria, Ohio. In 1856 he came west to Chatfield, Minnesota, and on July 1, 1856, came to Austin, and with J. L. Davidson and L. S. Morgan, purchased eighty acres, a part of which was laid out. Mr. Griffith was successively saw mill man, postmaster and justice of the peace in the pioneer years. From 1872 to 1882 he was again justice of the peace. He was also a councilman, and city recorder in the early days. The most of his time, however, has been spent on his 200-acre farm in Lansing township, which he now rents, his home being in the city. Mr. Griffith was married July 13, 1849, at Grass Lake, Michigan, to Triphena Austin, daughter of James Austin and Tamer Chapin, both now deceased. This union has been blessed with two children: Edward James, who was born in



JOHN C. HAWKINS

Austin, August 31, 1861, and Ella L., who was born May 31, 1850, and died June 25, 1869. Edward J. conducts the home farm. He married Jessie Simpson, and has two children: Lloyd N., and Leah Triphena. 'Squire Griffith has been a life-long Democrat.

John C. Hawkins, horticulturist, agriculturist, and lecturer, is one of the most prominent of Mower county citizens. For years he has gone up and down the county and state preaching the planting of apples and plums, and his efforts have seen fruition in the many successful orchards that have been cultivated throughout southern Minnesota. John C. Hawkins was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, June 2, 1833, son of Vincent and Annie (Crowell) Hawkins. He learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, served an apprenticeship of three years, and after his marriage followed this vocation for several years. He enlisted August 5, 1861, in the Second Ohio Light Artillery, under Captain Carlton, and served in the Southwest under John C. Freemont. In 1862 he was discharged for disability and reenlisted in the Second Ohio Heavy Artillery, thus seeing service in Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee. He was discharged in August, 1865, and was mustered out at Nashville. Then he came directly to Mower county, reaching here September 5, 1865. He settled on a farm in Windom township and there continued to reside for many years. He built a fine home and suitable barns and also erected two school-houses. Throughout the period of his residence on the farm, Mr. Hawkins continued to carry on horticultural and agricultural operations in a scientific manner, thus gaining the valuable experience which makes him in such demand as a speaker at all farmers' meetings. Mr. Hawkins is a member of various horticultural and agricultural societies and has served as an officer in many of them. He is at present secretary of the Mower County Old Settlers' Association. While in Windom he served in various offices from supervisor down. He is a member of McIntire Post, No. 66, G. A. R., and of other organizations. The subject of this sketch was married June 18, 1854, to Sarah C. Woodward, of Richmond, Ohio, daughter of John and Cornelia (Turner) Woodward. Five children have blessed this union: V. J. Hawkins, M. D., of St. Paul; Anna, wife of M. J. Gregg, a farmer of Windom township; Susan, wife of James Philbrick, a farmer of Windom township; Millie, wife of Norman Gregg, of Austin; Joy, on the old homestead. Vincent Hawkins was a native of England. He came to the United States in 1818 and located in Phillipsburg, Pa., where he was a master miner, an occupation he followed until his death. He married Annie Crowell and of their children five are living: John C. lives in Austin; Ellen is the widow of John Burris; Mary L. is the wife of Charles Skinner, of Ludlow, Mo.; I. N. lives in Washington, D. C., and J. K. lives in Canon City.

Col. In 1900 John C. Hawkins retired from active life and moved to Austin, where he has since resided. Aside from his city property he owns 160 acres of highly improved land in Windom township.

Ralph E. Crane, one of the representatives from Mower county in the lower house of the thirty-seventh Minnesota legislature, has done much to assist in the growth and development of Frankford township and Grand Meadow, and his influence and example have done much toward making farm life attractive. Ralph E. Crane was born in Canton, N. Y., April 22, 1858, son of O. W. and Emily R. (Emerson), natives respectively of Massachusetts and Vermont, and the latter a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the great philosopher. Ralph E. Crane was educated in the public schools and in the St. Lawrence University at Canton, N. Y. Later he attended Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and graduated in 1877. After leaving school he taught four years in New York state, four years in Lansing, this county, and one year in Windom, also in this county. Then he worked four years in Minneapolis as a carpenter and joiner. April 1, 1887, he came to his present location and has since followed general farming, purchasing his farm from Charles Wood in 1894. Representative Crane carries on general farming and stock raising along the latest approved lines. He makes a specialty of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, Percheron horses and Hampshire swine. His herd of cattle, consisting of 100 head and known as the Cranewood herd, is noted among all cattle breeders of the Northwest. Mr. Crane's beautiful farm is known as East Cranewood. The farm surrounding the new residence and buildings now under construction will be known as West Cranewood. Mr. Crane is a Republican. For many years he was town clerk and justice of the peace and he has also served in many other local offices. He was for nine years secretary of the Grand Meadow Creamery and was one of its organizers and builders. He was also first president of the First National Bank at Grand Meadow and has contributed largely to its success. The Home Telephone also received his ardent support. It is an interesting fact that the Cranewood farm, which consists of 465 acres, upon which Mr. Crane has made all the improvements, is divided by two rural routes and two telephone lines. The schoolhouse and town hall are also in the center of the farm. Mr. Crane was married May 14, 1884, to Florence E. Wood. She was born on the site of the present farm August 29, 1860, daughter of Geo. W. and Jane (McMichael) Wood, natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Crane have eight children: Clarence E., Benjamin W., Maud M., Rollin E., Webb, Wade, Sydney A. and Florence E. Clarence E. lives in Dakota. Maud M. is teaching. The others are at home.

W. L. Van Camp, the efficient manager of the Austin exchange of the Northwestern Telephone Company and for several years secretary of the Austin Commercial Club, was born in Byron, Minn., September 15, 1876, son of W. P. and Dora D. (Newell) Van Camp, the former of whom was a farmer and a maker of musical instruments. W. L. attended the schools of his native place and also the high school at St. Thomas, N. D. He farmed at the latter place until 1897, when he began service for the Northwestern Telephone Company at Minneapolis. January 28, 1901, he came to Austin in his present capacity with that company and has done most efficient work. He is a member of a number of the leading fraternal organizations. Mr. Van Camp was married May 23, 1904, at Austin, to Kathryn D. Mayer, daughter of M. J. Mayer, and their home has been blessed with two children: W. Leslie, Jr., born January 9, 1906, and Marcella D., born July 8, 1907.

Mason J. Parmenter was born in New York state, April 22, 1852, son of Mason and Eliza Parmenter, who came to Mower county in 1859, preëmpted land and spent the remainder of their lives, the former dying in 1877 and the latter in 1881. M. J. came to Minnesota with his parents, and at the death of his father took the home place in partnership with his brother, John E. He now owns 280 acres and carries on general farming. He was married in March, 1891.

G. Fred Baird, undertaker, was born in Austin, December 25, 1859, son of George Baird. After engaging in business in Austin for a time he went to South Dakota. In 1889 he came back to Austin and became interested in the furniture business. He is now Austin's leading undertaker and funeral director. He was married in 1889 and has two children: Lyman S. and Stanton. He belongs to a number of fraternities and organizations.

John H. Anderson was born in Windom, this county, July 29, 1872, son of Sven and Anna C. Anderson. He received his education in the Austin schools and on February 1, 1888, started to learn the marble business. In 1896 he became interested in business with his father. The concern now does a general implement, marble and automobile business, the story of the growth of the industry being told elsewhere. Mr. Anderson is senior warden of the Episcopal church at Austin. He is a high degree Mason and has served as worthy master of the blue lodge, worthy patron of the Eastern Star, high priest of the Chapter and generalissima of the Commandery. He has also served as secretary of the Carnegie Library board since its organization. Mr. Anderson was married January 21, 1903, to Maude Morgan and they have one son, Rex.

Philip Schleiger, druggist of Grand Meadow, was born in

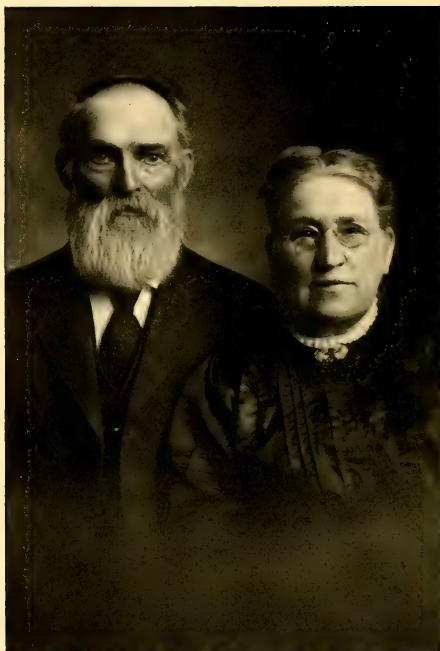
Washington county, Wisconsin, March 9, 1852, son of Jacob and Barbara (Brandt) Schleiger. He came to Grand Meadow in 1878. In 1894 he engaged in his present business. He was married October 28, 1875, to Kate Christgau, and in the family are four children: Lydia A., Albert F., Edwin G. and Hilda. Mr. Schleiger is a prominent citizen, has served in a number of offices and belongs to a number of fraternities. He is also a stockholder in a several successful enterprises.

William W. Patterson, for many years an honest and respected blacksmith of Austin, was born in Chautauqua county, New York, April 15, 1832. There he was reared on a farm and lived there until fourteen years of age, at which time he was taken by his parents to Beaver Dam, Wis., where he completed his education in the public schools. He then learned the blacksmith trade. In 1866 he came to Austin, erected a shop and here followed general blacksmithing until his death, February 20, 1892. He prospered as time passed and accumulated property, so that at the time of his decease he owned a block of land within the city limits as well as a fine brick residence, where Mrs. Patterson now resides. He was married April 15, 1853, at Beaver Dam, Wis., to Ardelia Hudson. She was born May 5, 1836, at Waterbury, Washington county, Vermont. There she attended the public schools until thirteen years of age, at which time she was brought by her parents to Wisconsin, where she completed her education; grew to womanhood and married. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson are the parents of six children. Two, William W., Jr., and Mrs. Martin, are dead. O. D. lives in Grand Forks, N. D. Mrs. Mabel Sterling lives in Minneapolis. Charles C. lives in San Francisco. Mrs. Maude Cutter lives in Austin. Mr. Patterson was a member of the Universalist church and of the Legion of Honor. Mrs. Patterson is a kindly old lady, greatly esteemed for her many excellent traits. Her husband was a substantial God-fearing citizen, of upright character, honorable and straightforward in every way.

William D. Bassler, Austin's popular haberdasher and clothier, is of eastern birth, having first seen the light of day in Central Bridge, N. Y., August 13, 1872, sixth child of Benjamin F. and Gertrude (Baker) Bassler, natives of New York state. His father was a farmer in the early days and later became a glove manufacturer at Gloversville, N. Y. This business he continued until the time of his death, in April, 1900. Mrs. Gertrude Bassler, mother of William D. and wife of Benjamin F., is still living in Gloversville, N. Y. Benjamin F. Bassler and his wife were the parents of nine children. Nellie is Mrs. H. L. Smith, of Gloversville, N. Y. M. I. lives in Austin, and travels for Lets, Spencer, Smith Company, of Mason City, Iowa. Eva is now Mrs. William Starr, of Albany, N. Y. B. F., Jr., is in the grocery business in



WILLIAM W. PATTERSON.



MR. AND MRS. H. S. HAMMOND.

Gloversville, N. Y. Cyrus is dead. W. D. lives in Austin. Minnie, now Mrs. William Sternberg, lives in Gloversville, N. Y. Peter is dead. Lottie is now Mrs. Edison Pratt, of Gloversville, N. Y. William D. Bassler, the subject of this sketch, received his early schooling in Central Bridge, N. Y., and afterward worked in Gouverneur, N. Y., at the glove business until 1894, at which time, looking for a wider opportunity, he left Gloversville and came west, locating in Austin. For six years he clerked in various stores. Among those with whom he was employed were: Loucks & Hollister, general store; F. H. Palmer, grocery store, and George Hirsch, clothing store. In 1900 he went on the road for Lanpher, Skinner & Co., selling hats and furs. He remained with this company two years, his territory covering portions of the Pacific coast. In 1902 he engaged in the retail cigar business at Austin, and managed this line with much success for four years until 1906. In that year he established his present business. He has built up a large trade, represents some of the best firms in the men's furnishing line, and carries a large stock of all the things men need in the clothing and haberdasher line. He has personally supervised the wholesale buying and the retail selling in his store, and his own personality, together with his hard work and industry, has had an important bearing on the success with which he has met. Mr. Bassler is a popular Elk, and also belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the Commercial Club. He attends the Episcopal church and votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Bassler was married August 20, 1903, to Irene Frank, born at historic old Ft. Snelling, June, 1875, while her father, Hon. John Frank, of LeRoy, was a settler there. The Bassler residence is located at 609 Kenwood avenue, North. Mrs. Bassler is an active worker in women's circles, and is interested in the various movements which the ladies have inaugurated for the improvement of the city.

H. S. Hammond, retired farmer and president of the Lansing Co-operative Dairy Company, now living in Austin, was born in Boone county, Illinois, son of Henry B. and Hester (Butler) Hammond. He came to Mower county in February, 1874, and settled on section 16, in Lansing township. Previous to coming here he had served nine months in the Civil war, enlisting in Company B, One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at the last call for troops when eighteen years of age. He enlisted as a private, and was mustered out as a corporal, September 21, 1865, at Springfield, Ill. Mr. Hammond has spent the larger part of his life as a farmer, and is now practically retired. He kept a store in Lansing four years and was one of the promoters in company with H. B. Roe, Harvey McIntyre and O. C. LaBar of the Lansing Co-operative Creamery Company. This concern is the largest of

its kind in Mower county, does an extensive and profitable business, and produces 3,000 pounds of butter a week, the product being shipped to New York. Mr. Hammond married Jennie E. Hunt, daughter of Robert and Jane Hunt, both natives of England, Robert Hunt being a paper maker by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Hammond have had five children. Nina A., of Lansing village, married Alexander McLean, now deceased. Frederick T. is dead. Charles S. lives in California. Arthur O. lives in Eagle Bend, Todd county, Minnesota. Hester E. is now Mrs. Ernest Carl, of Lansing village. Mr. Hammond is a staunch Republican. He has been supervisor of Lansing township, and has served as clerk of his school district at Lansing. The family faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church. Henry B. Hammond was born in Pennsylvania, and went to Boone county, Illinois, when fourteen years of age. He married Hester Butler and had four children: Lydia C. died in infancy; Henry S. lives in Lansing township, Minnesota; Wealtha E. married Samuel Illingworth, and is now dead; Francis T. died in 1865.

Arthur Winfield Wright, attorney and military man, has taken an active part in the affairs of Austin and Mower county, and although he has already accomplished much in life, his friends predict a still broader future. He was born in Ohio, September 17, 1861, son of Cyrus and Marietta M. (Smith) Wright. He was educated in the common schools of his neighborhood, in the high school at Cambridge, Ill., and at Carleton College, Northfield, Minn. After following the banking business in the First National Bank, of Austin, he formed a partnership with La Fayette French in 1887, under the firm name of French & Wright, Mr. Wright for a time looking after the real estate end of the business. In 1898 the firm was dissolved, and Mr. Wright has since conducted an extensive law practice. He was county attorney eight years, after which he voluntarily withdrew. He was also city attorney of Austin a number of years. In the business line he is president and director of the Austin Weed Exterminator Company and treasurer and director of the Alliance Fire Insurance Company of Minnesota. He is also a member of the American Bar Association and of the Minnesota Bar Association. In addition to this he belongs to the Masonic body, the Austin Commercial Club and other organizations, and was for a time a trustee of Carleton College, at Northfield, Minn. During the Spanish-American war Colonel Wright served as major of the Twelfth Minnesota Infantry, United States Volunteers, and he is at present colonel of the Second Infantry, M. N. G., having gradually been promoted from the position of private in Company G, of Austin. The subject of this sketch was married May 25, 1885, to Agnes E. Clark, daughter of Henry D. and Nancy E. Clark, and this union has

been blessed with two children: Winfield Clark, born in August, 1886, now with Farwell, Ozmun, Kirk & Co., of St. Paul, and Dean A., born in February, 1888, now with the Merchants' National Bank, of Billings, Mont.

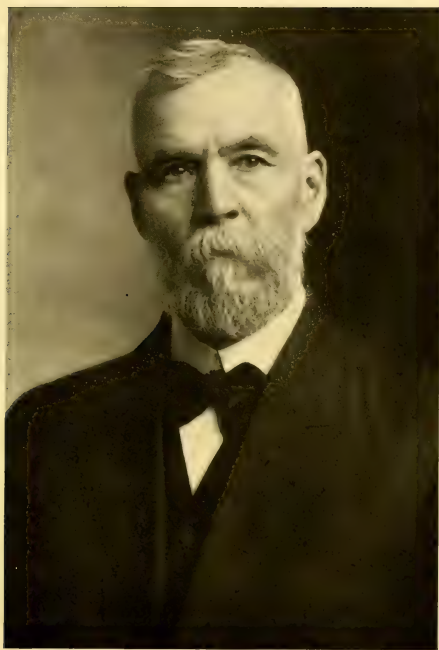
John Thompson, a veteran of the Civil war, and retired farmer now living in Lansing village, was born in Yorkshire, England, in February, 1841. When he was four years old he came with his parents to the United States and settled in McHenry county, Illinois, where his father entered government land and pursued farming. John grew to manhood in McHenry county, and had barely attained his majority when he enlisted in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into the service in September, 1862. He went south with his regiment and served under Grant and Logan. On account of superior merit as a soldier, he was transferred to a colored regiment and was appointed orderly sergeant. As such he participated in the massacre at Fort Pillow, April 12, 1864, and was there taken prisoner. He was first confined at Cahaba, Ala., from there taken to Andersonville, where he arrived May 2, 1864; then to Florence, S. C., September 16, 1864; to Wilmington, February 1, 1865, and to Goldsborough, N. C. From there he was paroled, entering the Union lines February 28, 1865. He was sent to the Marine Hospital at Annapolis; then to the Camden Street Hospital at Baltimore, Md., and from there furloughed home. He afterward served at Ft. Federal Hill, Baltimore, at Richmond and at Memphis, Tenn. As he had never been mustered into the colored regiment, he received orders to report to his old regiment at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill., where he was discharged. Then he returned home to McHenry county and was there married in 1868 to Charlotte A. Roe, daughter of Orson and Maria (Armstrong) Roe, the former of whom came from Schoharie county, New York. In the spring of 1868 Mr. Thompson came with his family to Mower county and purchased a farm in Udolpho township, where he lived until 1873, when he moved to the village of Lansing, where he now lives. He is a Republican in politics and has worthily filled many public offices. The subject of this sketch has been a Mason since 1867 and is the present master of the Blue Lodge at Lansing. His wife has been the worthy matron of the Eastern Star Lodge in the same village. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have one son, Lee Ora, of Lansing, where he is engaged in the lumber and coal business. The subject of this sketch served for thirty years as assessor of Lansing township and was assessor for Udolpho township two years. He was a constable and at one time was one of the village council of Lansing. He is now treasurer of school district 43, a position he has occupied for over fifteen years.

Harvey M. McIntyre, postmaster, prominent official and mer-

chant of Lansing village, was born in the town of Saranac, Clinton county, New York, March 6, 1849, son of Hosea and Harriett (Morrison) McIntyre, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New York state. Harvey M., who was the fifth of seven children, received such education as the schools of his neighborhood afforded, and as a young man commenced clerking in a store near his birthplace. After about three years, at the age of nineteen, he went to Illinois and spent a winter near Chicago. Then he spent a year at Utica, in LaSalle county, Illinois. From there he went to Helena, Iowa county, Wisconsin, and stayed there until the spring of 1873. From that year dates his residence in Lansing. Upon his arrival here he engaged in the mercantile trade with John Bartlett under the firm name of Bartlett & McIntyre. In the fall of 1883 he purchased his partner's interest, and since that time has carried on the business alone. In 1876 Mr. McIntyre was elected town clerk, and when the village of Lansing was incorporated he became recorder of the new municipality, a position he held as long as the municipality was in force. He was appointed postmaster under John Wanamaker in 1889, which position he still maintains. Mr. McIntyre was married at Helena, Iowa county, Wisconsin, August 20, 1873, to Ada C. (Saxton), who was born May 3, 1854, and to this union five children have been born: Herbert E., deceased; Albert H., deceased; Clarence; Harry S. and Hattie L. Clarence is married and living in New York city. He graduated from a commercial college at Austin. Harry S. is in the store clerking for his father. He is a graduate of the Owatonna high school and of Carleton College. Hattie L. is a music teacher and lives at home. She graduated from the Austin high school and attended Pittsburg Academy at Owatonna.

Ernest V. Smith, M. D., physician and surgeon, was born in Elwood, Ind., June 15, 1880, son of William and Margaret (Winship) Smith. For seven years he attended Wabash College, at Crawfordsville, Ind., graduating in 1902. After a year teaching school in the state of Washington, he entered the medical department of the university, and graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1907. After graduation he came to Adams and purchased the practice of Dr. E. F. Chase. Dr. Smith was married October 16, 1907, at Crawfordsville, Ind., to Katherine Fisher, daughter of J. J. Fisher. The Smith home has been blessed with two children: E. Vernon, born December 10, 1908, and Eugene F., born April 6, 1910.

Rev. Clarendon Dwight Belden was born near Providence, R. I., May 3, 1848, son of Stanton and Antoinette Percival (Manchester) Belden. His father was born in Sandisfield, Mass., January 15, 1808, and died in Providence, R. I., February 11, 1890.



REV. C. D. BELDEN

His mother was born at Little Compton, R. I., May 14, 1815, and died at Providence, R. I., April 10, 1900. They were married December 9, 1835. The father was a graduate of Yale College and was principal of a private New England academy which he owned. It was situated at Fruit Hill, just north of Providence. The subject of this sketch was educated in his father's academy. He graduated from the Lyons University Grammar School in Providence in 1864 and in 1868 graduated in the four-years course from Brown University with the degree of B. A., taking an M. A. later in the course. He was principal of a village public school for three years and then entered Crozer Theological Seminary at Upland, Pa., graduating in 1874. In June, 1874, he was ordained as a Baptist minister in the Memorial Baptist Church of Philadelphia. In November, 1874, he located as pastor of the Baptist church in Austin, Minn., resigning in January, 1882, to become county superintendent of schools for Mower county. He continued in this office for nine years, during which time great progress was made in grading the rural schools so that pupils might make continuous advancement in their studies to prepare for higher schools. Mr. Belden was pastor of the Baptist church of Windom, Cottonwood county, Minnesota, one year, 1891-1892, during which time he completed their new house of worship and it was dedicated free of debt. In October, 1893, he purchased a half interest in the Mower County Transcript, forming a partnership with N. S. Gordon, and took the entire editorial management of the paper. In December, 1898, he purchased Mr. Gordon's interest, becoming sole proprietor of the Transcript, which he still continues to own and edit. Mr. Belden was married at Austin, Minn., June 27, 1877, to Mrs. Francelia Louise (West) Crandall. She was the daughter of Lewis and Miranda B. (Husbrook) West, and was born in the town of Stockton, Chautauqua county, New York, November 7, 1843. Her father was a native of Stockton, N. Y., and came to Mitchell county, Iowa, at Otranto, in 1854. Her mother was born in Addison, Vt., November 29, 1819, and died at Carpenter, Iowa, July 20, 1896. They were married in Chautauqua county, New York, September 24, 1837. Mr. and Mrs. Belden have one child, Antoinette Griffith Belden, who was born in Austin, June 24, 1882. She graduated from the Austin high school, class of 1900, and from the University of Minnesota, class of 1905. She was married to C. Earl Varco, of Sidney, Mont., August 5, 1908. Mr. Belden, in addition to his newspaper work in these later years, has continued regularly in ministerial work and has had charge of the Baptist churches at Brownsdale, Blooming Prairie and Lansing at different times. He has probably officiated at more weddings and funerals than any other minister who ever lived in Mower county. He has also taken

much interest in agricultural work and was one of the organizers and became general manager of the Austin Co-operative Creamery Association in 1893. He was for years a member of the Austin board of education and its clerk. He has been vice president of the National Editorial Association, vice president of the National Creamery Buttermakers' Association and president of the State County Superintendents' Association. He has traveled considerably, having visited the chief parts of Canada, the United States and Old Mexico. He has a wide acquaintance with people in all parts of Mower county as few have. He is much interested in horticulture and finds enjoyment among his flowers and fruits. He has come into close relation with this community in many ways.

William Christie, of Austin, has served as chairman of the boards of county commissioners of two counties, and is now serving in that capacity in Mower county. He was born in Highgate, Franklin county, Vermont, March 24, 1844, son of Adam and Mary (O'Heare) Christie, who brought him to Wisconsin in 1855. In October, 1864, the subject of this sketch came to Minnesota and started farming, purchasing a quarter section of his own in 1870, located in Oakland township. In 1898 he came to Austin and engaged in his present business. Mr. Christie was assessor of Oakland township in Freeborn county twenty years, and also served as town treasurer, town supervisor and clerk of his school district. In 1884 he was elected chairman of the board of county commissioners of Freeborn county and served with credit in that capacity for six years. In the fall of 1892 he was elected to the legislature and served one term. In 1904 he was elected county commissioner of Mower county for a four-year term and was reelected in 1908. Four years he has served as chairman of the board.

Nicholai Nicholaisen, whose name was afterward anglicized into Nicholas NicholSEN, was an early merchant of Austin. He was born in Norway, and came to America in 1867, locating in New York city, where he was married to Johanna Maria Vestlien, who had preceded him to America by one year. In 1870 they came to Austin, and here Nicholas engaged with Fernald & Kimball. Later he became a partner with S. C. Olson in the furniture business, thus continuing until his death in 1876. His wife passed away in 1908. Of their five children four are living. They are: Nicholas NicholSEN, sheriff of Mower county; Lena C., wife of S. M. Peterson, of Blooming Prairie, Minn.; Jacob N., an attorney of Austin, and Nora A., wife of George Brandner, of Newell, S. D.

Jacob N. NicholSEN, attorney of Austin, was born in Austin, December 19, 1871, son of Nicholas and Johanna Maria (Vestlien)



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL O. FORTHUN.

Nicholsen. He was reared in his native city, and in 1889 graduated from the Austin high school. Then after eight years in the First National Bank, of Austin, he entered the law office of Kingsley & Shepherd, in 1897, as student and clerk. Subsequently he took two summer courses in the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. In 1908 he went south as first sergeant of Company G, Twelfth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. October 1, 1901, he was admitted to the bar, and a year later formed a partnership with Senator F. E. Putnam, of Blue Earth, Minn. This firm served for some time as city attorneys of Blue Earth. September 1, 1909, Mr. Nicholsen returned to Austin, and became a partner of S. D. Catherwood in the firm of Catherwood & Nicholsen. In October, 1910, he was appointed city attorney. He is a member of the Masonic body, the Commercial Club and other organizations. The subject of this sketch was married September 29, 1903, at Austin, to Annie B. McBride, daughter of E. P. McBride, the pioneer grocer, and Esther Baldwin McBride, his wife. Attorney and Mrs. Nicholsen are the parents of three children: Margaret Esther, born December 7, 1904; Frank Vestlien, born October 5, 1909, and Richard McBride, born January 22, 1911.

Samuel Olson Forthun, now deceased, lived in Mower county from the closing year of the Civil war until the time of his death, and his example and influence were ever for the good. He was born at Sogn, Norway, March 3, 1830, son of Ole and Annie Forthun, natives of Sogn, Norway, where they both lived and died. Samuel O. received his education in his native country and in 1855, at the age of twenty-five, he came to America, living the first seven years in Wisconsin, where he worked on farms in Dane and Iowa counties. Then he went to South Dakota for a time. In 1865 he came to Mower county and located in LeRoy township. A few years later he purchased eighty acres of wild land, which he broke and improved, carrying on general farming and increasing his holdings until he owned 240 acres in the home farm, and other tracts of land which he divided among his children. In 1899 he retired from active life, and purchased a lot in the village of LeRoy, on which he built a pleasant home where he lived until his death, May 5, 1903. Samuel O. Forthun was married May 23, 1863, to Anna Thompson, who was born in Norway, August 14, 1846. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thorsten Thompson, were natives of Norway, came to America in 1860, lived in Wisconsin for a while, and still later went to Grand Forks, N. D., where the father died in 1895, and the mother in 1907. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Forthun has been blessed with thirteen children: Ole lives in Thiek River Falls, Minn.; Thomas is in California for his health; Anna is wife of H. H. Bither, of

LeRoy village; Samuel is dead; Christian is at Cresco, Iowa, and is deputy county auditor of Howard county; Elias lives in the state of Washington; Rachel, a milliner by trade, is home with her mother; John lives in Barnesville, Minn.; Martin, a carpenter, lives in Minneapolis; Serena is dead; Christina teaches in South Dakota; Gena teaches in Iowa; Peter is a student at the Southern Minnesota Normal College, Austin. The family faith is that of the Norwegian Lutheran church. When Mr. Forthun and family moved from Wisconsin to South Dakota they with six other families made the move in covered wagons drawn by oxen, driving through the wilderness. There were very few roads. Bridges also were very scarce and often they had to ford rivers. They made the journey in about thirty days and settled near Yankton, which was then only a very small town. During the summer the grasshoppers came and destroyed completely all the crops in that locality in two or three hours. After that the settlers had to drive ninety miles for provisions. In the spring the danger from hostile Indians drove them out. They then migrated to the vicinity of LeRoy, Minn. Here Mr. Forthun bought eighty acres of land. As money was very scarce at that time they lived in a cellar four years. Then they built a small frame house, in which they had lived only two days when it was burned to the ground and everything destroyed. When their three children saw the outcome of their play they ran to a corn field near by for safety. Then they were compelled to set up housekeeping to the best of their ability in the old cellar again until another house could be erected. When he came to America Mr. Forthun had just money enough to buy his ticket.

Jerry B. Yates was born in Lockport, N. Y., in 1829. He came to Austin in 1855. In partnership with V. P. Lewis he opened the second store here. They also turned their attention to town lots, and in April, 1856, arose the familiar controversy concerning the records of the platting of Austin. At the first election in the county Mr. Yates was elected sheriff on the west side ticket by 46 majority. Yates and Lewis started the first brickyard in Austin. Finally their partnership was dissolved and Mr. Yates engaged in the grain business for a while, then moved to his fine farm near Lansing. He stayed there four years and then engaged in extensive insurance business until the time of his final illness.

George Baird, deceased, was born July 28, 1833, in New Hampshire, of Scotch ancestry, and a direct descendant of Andrew Baird, who came over in the second voyage of the Mayflower. His father was a piano maker and tuner and the boy early went to work in his father's shop. At fifteen he was bound out to work in a cabinet shop until he was twenty-one. Ere that time he bought his time and went to work in a carriage shop. In 1854



GEORGE BAIRD.

he, with John Wright, went to Chicago, and became engaged in carriage building, turning out the first light buggy made in the city. June 18, 1855, was his wedding day, Charlotte Brown being the bride. Soon they came to Racine, Wis., and the next spring Mr. Baird came to Mower county to look for land. He preempted a quarter section in Lansing and built a log house. Ten dollars all of his worldly possessions. Mrs. Baird came in December. He camped in a sheet tent on the Cedar with the mercury thirty degrees below. He split rails to earn a few groceries for his family. After awhile he sold his claim and did carpenter work. In 1861 he moved his family to Austin and a pleasant home was begun. War interrupted the building, for he enlisted in October, 1861, in the Fourth Minnesota Infantry. His war record was as honorable as it was brave, and when discharged he held the rank of lieutenant. On his return to Austin he was appointed postmaster, but soon resigned. He was sheriff of the county for a time. Later he again became postmaster, but died in 1895 while still in office.

Orlenzer Allen was born in Allegany county, New York, March 17, 1826, and was the twin brother of Judge Ormanzo Allen. He pursued his studies in the university at Alfred Centre. In 1842 his parents came to Wisconsin and he continued his studies in Milton College. He then studied medicine with Dr. Rider, of Milton, and afterward graduated in Rush Medical College, Chicago, with honors. He also took a post graduate course for physicians and surgeons, in New York city. In 1847 he united his fortunes with those of Almeda Coon, an educated woman and successful teacher. He commenced to practice in Milton, but came to Austin in 1856, he being the first physician to settle here. After fourteen years' practice in Austin he went back to Milton, where he died in 1883. While here he filled many political offices in county and city.

Rev. Stephen Cook was born in Vermont in 1796, but grew up in northern New York after he was two years old. He was ordained at the age of thirty-eight. In 1856 he came to Austin and a year later organized the first church here, with a membership of fifteen. In March, 1860, while laboring in a revival at Oakland, he was stricken with paralysis. Six months later when partially recovered he preached for six months again. He died of a final stroke of paralysis on October 12, 1864. He was married at Malone, N. Y., in 1819, to Jenette Wyse, who shared and assisted him in his labors and survived him over a year. They had four children. The oldest, William W., born in 1820, was long Austin's chorister and superintendent of Sunday schools, and died of paralysis August 26, 1867. The second, James N., born September 21, 1821, studied at Oberlin for the ministry till

his eyesight failed six months before he would have graduated. He was a deacon in the Congregational church at Austin from its organization till his death, September 12, 1886. The third, John F., was born May 13, 1823, became a successful merchant and owner of real estate in Austin and vicinity. The youngest, Julia A., born in 1826, married Dr. J. N. Wheat.

Rev. Alfred Cressy was born in England April 29, 1838. In the fall of 1856 he and his wife, Hannah Phelps, came by team to Lyle, where Mrs. Cressy's parents had moved the previous spring. He preëmpted a claim, but sold a part of it and traded the rest for an eighty in Austin. He began studying for the ministry in Austin, and afterwards went to Hamline University, then at Red Wing, for a four years' course. He had a long and useful career as a clergyman and now lives in retirement in Austin.

Lyman D. Baird has long been considered Austin's most helpful citizen and his interests reach far beyond the boundaries of the city and county. In the city he has been mayor and city attorney; in the county he has been secretary of the Mower County Old Settlers' Association and an officer of the Mower County Fair Association; in the state he has been postmaster of the house of representatives, and a member of the board of managers of the Minnesota State Agricultural Association for more than eight years, and in that society has been chairman of the committee on amusements and privileges for the Minnesota state fair. He is at present superintendent of gates of this, the greatest fair in the United States. He is a member of the Loyal Legion, a high degree Mason, and an ardent friend of all G. A. R. projects, his father having been a distinguished and popular officer during the Civil war. However the mere mention of Mr. Baird's offices does not do justice to his activities. He has advocated the improvement of Austin in various ways, offering his purse as well as his influence and the advantage of his support. He has tendered a considerable sum for the beautifying of the mill pond and the transformation of it into a lake, providing that certain conditions were met. He proffered valuable land for the building of the city hall. He gave the beautiful lamp which adorns the humane fountain; he has been active in getting business houses to locate here; he was the first of the heavy taxpayers to advocate street paving, and the real father of the cement walks of which Austin is so proud; he has erected more houses than any other man in Austin, and in many other ways has proven a valuable citizen. With all this he has not neglected his own business, and his real estate operations in this and other states cover many hundreds of thousands of dollars. At the present time he is making a hobby of farm lands, and has acquired several tracts of land on which he will conduct agricultural op-

erations along the most modern and scientific lines. He believes in tree planting and the general beautifying of the farm, is a free user of paint on farm buildings and a great believer in the use of drain tile. He insists that Minnesota will inside of five years raise more corn than Iowa. He is building several silos on his farms this summer, and some idea of his farming operations in the vicinity of Austin can be had from the fact that this season, 1911, he is sowing over 1,000 acres to flax, 200 acres to corn, and 200 acres to wheat, besides 100 acres to oats, 300 acres to timothy, ten acres to roots and fifteen acres to alfalfa. He is using a gasoline engine to plow, seed and drag one tract of 700 acres. The farm is twelve miles west of Austin and Mr. Baird has two shifts of men working night and day. For many years he has devoted considerable attention to live stock breeding, with special attention to the beef-producing qualities of the animals. Of late, however, he is turning his interest to milk breeds. Lyman D. Baird was born in Mower county October 17, 1857, his natal place being on the farm in Lansing township, on the outskirts of Austin, which his father, George Baird, pre-empted in 1856. Before he was fourteen years of age he had saved \$300 by raising and selling vegetables. He also earned money in other ways while at school. After leaving school he clerked for a while in a store, but later went back to the farm. Next he received an appointment as county jailer and thus began his connection with one of the incidents of the famous Page conflicts. Judge Brill fixed young Baird's compensation at \$2 per day. Judge Sherman Page, on his return from his impeachment trial, ignored this action and ordered the pay to be nothing. Mr. Baird thereupon went to the courts and won his case. At the age of twenty-one years he began to study law with G. N. Baxter at Faribault and was admitted to the bar three years later, thus practically beginning his successful career. He has never practiced law, but has devoted his whole life to real estate and banking. In 1901 he was appointed national bank examiner and had charge of the national banks of Wisconsin and the large cities of Minnesota for five years. He then served as receiver of the First National Bank of Faribault for two years. In addition to the offices mentioned above Mr. Baird for twenty-four years has been secretary of the Austin Building and Loan Association. He married Lila M. Hall and has two daughters, Helen and Frances. The former is a graduate of St. Mary's Hall, Faribault.

James M. Sterling was born in Pitcher, Cortland county, New York, April 3, 1824, where he lived until eleven years of age, when he moved with his parents to Lima, Livingston county, New York. After the death of his father in 1866, he bought

the interest of his brothers and sisters and succeeded to the ownership and management of the home farm. In 1853 he married Helen Eldredge, of Cincinnati, N. Y. Of their four children, Edward H. and Nellie G. are living and reside in Austin, a daughter, Carrie, died at the age of three months, and a son, Worthy S., died in Austin in 1890, at the age of twenty-four. Having a favorable opportunity to sell the Lima farm in the spring of 1871, he decided to do so and shortly afterward came west. After spending the summer and winter of 1871 in Austin, he decided to locate in Mower county. Early in the year 1872 he purchased the farm just west of the city of Austin, known for so many years afterward as the "Sterling farm." He was a thorough, practical farmer and soon made this naturally attractive place a model farm and was long looked upon as one of the best farmers in the county. In the spring of 1896, at the age of seventy-two, wishing to retire, he sold the farm and moved into the city and built the home at 306 West Water street, where he still resides, respected by all who know him. In 1902 Mr. and Mrs. Sterling celebrated their golden wedding, and, notwithstanding his advanced age of eighty-seven, Mr. Sterling is still active, a great reader and retains his interest in current events and public affairs.

Knud Nelson Hougestuen, now deceased, was one of the substantial men of Frankford township. He was an ideal pioneer in every way, rugged in health, persevering of mind and stanch of character. No hardships or difficulties discouraged him, and no hard work daunted him. The Lutheran church counted him as an active worker and a consistent believer, and in his family he was a loving and considerate husband and an affectionate and generous father. In his death the township lost one who had assisted materially in its progress and who was never found wanting when any progressive movement needed a capable helper. The subject of this sketch was born in Norway, September 3, 1822, son of Nels Ekabot and Sarah Neutesen, his wife. After receiving a limited education in his native parish, Knud went to Christiana, where he engaged in a general store and saved money to come to America. In this connection an interesting story is told. A few days before Mr. Hougestuen was ready to sail, one Julius Loe came into the store and their conversation turned to America. Loe expressed his desire to come to America, but also stated that he had no funds. Accordingly Mr. Hougestuen, with that generosity which always characterized his actions, offered to loan him his passage to LaCrosse from Christiana. Years afterward the two men met at LaCrosse, at which time Mr. Loe paid his indebtedness. Conversation at that time revealed the fact which neither was aware of before,

namely, that Mr. Loe was a near relative of Mr. Houghestuen's wife. Knud Nelson Houghestuen came to America in 1851, landed in Quebec, Canada, and located in Dane county, Wisconsin. In 1854 he came to Frankford township, this county, and settled on section 7, where he pre-empted 120 acres of wild land. His early life here was full of hardships. He made the trip from LaCrosse here on foot, and started life here with none of the conveniences. His first house was a log cabin, and his equipment was of the most primitive. He, however, set about with hard work and intelligence to improve the place. A frame house soon replaced the log cabin, the land soon blossomed with bounteous crops, and at the time of his death, August 3, 1903, he owned 270 acres of rich land, all under cultivation. The subject of this sketch was married January 12, 1858, to Julia Sohus, born in Norway June 14, 1836, daughter of Julius Loe and Merit Sohus. Mrs. Houghestuen proved a most able helpmeet to her husband in all his undertakings. Since her husband's death she has rented the land, but still lives on the old place. She is a capable business woman and is well liked in the community. It is worthy of note here that Mr. Houghestuen was a close personal friend of C. F. Greening, of Grand Meadow, and transacted all his business through him. Mr. and Mrs. Houghestuen were blessed with eight children. Sarah is now Mrs. David Mink, of Washington state. Julia M., wife of W. J. Emerson, is dead. Emma is now Mrs. J. M. Hall, of Tacoma, Wash. Nels lives at home. Bertha is a milliner in Tacoma, Wash. Julius married Martha Svenby and lives in Belgrade, Minn. Olive graduated from the Spring Valley high school and was teaching at the time of her death. Ardena married O. Finhart, of Frankford and is dead.

Morris E. Hessler, a hustling real estate, insurance and collection man, now residing in the village of Lansing, was born in Canaan, Wayne county, Ohio, September 11, 1850. He came to Lansing in 1889 and took up the business which he has since followed. For the past twenty years Mr. Hessler has been agent for the Mower County Fire and Lightning Mutual Insurance Company, being now the oldest agent in the employ of that company. The ancestry of Mr. Hessler is a most interesting one. The founder of the family was a native of Hesse, Germany, and was sent to America to fight with the British against the Colonists during the Revolution. He was captured by the Americans and after being paroled, settled down in New York as a tailor, being known as Henry Hessler, Sr. It is interesting to note that while following his occupation in New York Henry Hessler, Sr., made a suit of clothes for the illustrious General George Washington. Henry Hessler, Jr., son of the first Henry, was born in New York city and moved to Canajoharie, Mont-

gomery county, New York. George Hessler, Sr., was the son of Henry Hessler, Jr. He was born in 1809, and on October 5, 1830, was married by Rev. Zacariah Paddock to Anna Maria Prentiss. She was born in Cooperstown, Otsego county, New York, and when a child her parents moved to Paris, Oneida county, New York. She was reared by Dr. O. P. Judd, an early governor of the Sandwich Islands. At the age of sixteen she started teaching at Casonovia, N. Y., and there met George Hessler, Sr. In 1840 George Hessler, Sr., and his wife went to Ohio and settled at a place called Canaan Center. George Hessler, Sr., died at Wooster, Ohio, November 18, 1886, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, Anna Maria Prentiss Hessler, died in 1892 at the age of eighty-four years. Morris E. Hessler was married July 22, 1874, to May Gardner, daughter of John and Jennie Gardner. This union was blessed with two children: Anna Maude, married Albert Ackerman, of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Alice Lunetic married Henry Latham, of Independence, Kans., and they have four children: Lucille S., Ladorna May, John Wesley and Laurie Belle.

George W. Bassett, a native son of Mower county, farms on 185 acres in Udolpho, and has been very successful in his agricultural operations. He was born on the farm where he still resides August 1, 1862, son of Edward and Jane E. McQuivey Bassett. He was educated in the district schools, grew to manhood on the farm, and married Cora M. Elkins, daughter of John and Phoebe (Ricker) Elkins, and this union has been blessed with three children: Alva E., of Lansing township, and Wesley I. and Winfred R. at home. Mr. Bassett is a Republican in politics and was for some time clerk of school district 76. At nineteen years of age he started farming for himself on the home farm. He has erected some good buildings and all of his land except twenty-five acres of timber is under cultivation.

Thomas Savage is a well-thought-of citizen of Windom township, where he has lived since 1864. He has taken his share in the development of the county, has been justice of the peace, was on the school board a number of years and has done his town service in other ways. He is a genial, whole-souled gentleman and his memory in regard to events in Windom and surrounding townships is as clear as is usually that of a man half his age. Thomas Savage was born in County Dublin, Ireland, October 25, 1838, son of John and Elizabeth (Danne) Savage. He came to America with his father and brother in 1851 and lived in Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y., three years. From there they went to Middletown Point, Monmouth county, New Jersey, where they lived two years. Thomas came to Illinois in 1856 and two years later, in 1858, took up his residence in Iowa. In the fall of 1864



THOMAS SAVAGE.



EDWARD BASSETT.

he came to Mower county and rented land on which was a log house in which he lived. Later he purchased land in Windom township. On this farm he erected a frame house and suffered the privations of pioneer life. The subject of this sketch married Elizabeth Guinney, daughter of Timothy Guinney. She died January 24, 1911, leaving seven children: Mary E., wife of Andrew Smith; Annie S., wife of George W. Smith; Nellie, wife of Frank Gerrard; Lillie, wife of Henry M. Rolfe; Thomas D.; Victoria, wife of Lew Lewis, and Ollie, a teacher in the Austin high school. The death of Mrs. Savage will long be mourned by friends and relatives. She was a loving and sympathetic wife and an affectionate and considerate mother. Hand in hand with her husband she faced the difficulties of life and lived to see her efforts crowned with the blessings of a contented life and happy family.

Edward Bassett was born in New York city, July 20, 1819. His parents moved to Michigan in 1828 and there died, the father in 1860 and the mother in 1882. Edward grew to manhood in Michigan and received a good common school education. He was twice married. In November, 1848, he married Levina Bruce, a native of Ohio, and moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, where his wife died in 1856. To his first marriage were born three children—Mary, William and Charles. For his second wife he married Jane McQuivey in July, 1857. She was a native of Vermont. In the same month Mr. Bassett came to Mower county to look at the country, and, being well pleased, took a claim and returned to Wisconsin. In the fall of 1858 he returned to his claim and the following July he was joined by his family, who moved into the house he had erected on the south half of section 21 in Udolpho. It is interesting to note that Mr. Bassett met the family at McGregor with an ox team and brought them here in that conveyance. Jane McQuivey Bassett died November 2, 1864, leaving four children: Edson, of Washington; Judson, of Michigan; George W., of Udolpho, and Elbra J., of North Dakota. Mr. Bassett was interested in all public affairs and served in many township offices. He gave his religious affiliation to the Baptist church. He died June 24, 1897.

J. H. Smith, a successful farmer of Udolpho township, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, March 2, 1861, son of Samuel and Emma (Sanford) Smith. At the age of three years he came with his parents to Mower county and located on section 33, Udolpho township, where he still resides. He married Jennie York, daughter of O. R. York, and this union has been blessed with three children: Oscar Samuel, Eleanor Elizabeth and Alice Louise.

Samuel Smith, father of J. H. Smith, was a native of Vermont

of English descent. His great-grandfather was the first settler of Windsor, Vt. The Smith family came from England in 1635 and settled in Hartford, Conn. Samuel Smith and wife first came to Mower county in 1857 and Samuel had much to do with the early history of Udolpho and Lansing as a religious and educational leader. He taught the village school in Lansing when there were more than seventy-five pupils of all ages in one room. He knew what pioneer life was. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Smith: Ida, Mrs. Julia Bloss, James H., Mrs. Emma Ullerick, Sophia and Mrs. Mattie Johnson. Samuel Smith died in December, 1870, at the age of thirty-six. His wife, Emma Sanford Smith, was born in Rockford, Ill., her father being a native of Connecticut and a minister of the gospel, riding a circuit in Illinois and Michigan until his deafness caused his practical retirement.

Oscar R. York was born in North Stonington, Conn., April 27, 1843, son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Brown) York, also of that place. He remained in his native village until 1866, when he came to Brownsdale and for two years worked for his uncle, A. D. Brown. Then he purchased the southwest quarter of section 2 and built on section 9. In 1874 he returned to Connecticut and on February 17 of that year married Sarah Stanton, of Voluntown, Conn. This union was blessed with one child, Mrs. Jennie Smith. Mr. York worked on his farm until after the death of his wife, November 29, 1905. In 1908 he went to Udolpho and took up his home with his daughter, Mrs. Smith. His wife, Sarah Stanton York, was born August 9, 1845, in Voluntown, Conn., daughter of Gen. William Stanton. Until the time of her death she was an active worker in the Baptist church and Sunday school at Brownsdale.

John Reding, assessor of the city of Austin, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, March 15, 1863, the son of Peter and Mary Reding, who brought their family to America in 1869 and settled in Union township, Mitchell county, Iowa. Here Peter Reding farmed about eighteen years and here his wife died, May 24, 1881, after which he moved to Adams in this county and retired. John Reding came to America with his parents in 1869 and located in Mitchell county, Iowa. There he attended the district schools and later entered the Mankato high school. After completing his schooling he returned to the home farm. Later he engaged in the hardware business five years at Adams. Subsequently he again took up agricultural pursuits and farmed four years in Mitchell county, Iowa. Then he rented the farm and moved to Lyle, this county, where he once more engaged in the hardware business, at the same time conducting a farm near the village. In 1901 he came to Austin and engaged in the land

business, being connected for two years with Herbert St. Ledger in the Southern Minnesota Land Company office. In 1910 he was made assessor of Austin. The same year he erected a comfortable residence on Freeborn street, where he owns ten lots. Aside from this property he has several other land holdings, among them a 240-acre farm in Mitchell county. He is still interested in farming and is one of the stockholders in the Austin Cement and Tile Company. Mr. Reding married Nellie Smith, daughter of Charles Smith, and they have three children: Marie L., Agnes V. and Esther E. The oldest is a milliner in Minneapolis. The others are at home.

M. N. Clausen, city engineer of Austin, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, oldest son of Rev. C. L. Clausen and Martha Rasmussen, his wife, natives of Denmark. His early education was received in the public schools, in Decorah college at Decorah, Iowa, and in the Cedar Valley seminary at Osage, Iowa. He was at the latter institution in 1867 when his father decided to visit the old country. M. N. accompanied his father across the water and entered a theological school in Copenhagen, Denmark, where he studied three years, twice translating the New Testament from the Greek to the Danish language. At the end of this period he entered the Polytechnic school in the same city and there studied civil engineering. Then for two years he taught language. In 1878 the steamship line of Copenhagen selected four men to come to America and look over the southern states, especially Texas, with a view to locating Danish colonies. Mr. Clausen was made chairman of the delegation. After completing his task he went to New York city and then visited his parents in Virginia. He remained in the latter state three months. Then he took a trip with his mother to Washington, D. C., and subsequently returned to his childhood home. At the end of this trip he had a call from Osage, Mitchell county, to become county surveyor of that county. This he accepted and held the position nine years. In 1889 he moved to Austin, purchased two lots on the corner of Baldwin and Third streets and there erected a home. He was made city surveyor of Austin and has at intervals since served in that office, occupying the position at present. He has also served as county surveyor. In 1892 he sold his property here and purchased a tract of timber land on Puget Sound, which he still owns. On May 20, 1911, the Austin Humane Society was organized through his efforts and he was made its president. In politics he is a strong advocate of prohibition. He is a member of St. Olaf church and was choirmaster of that congregation for many years. Mr. Clausen was married in 1886 by his father at St. Ansgar, Iowa, to Minnie Matheson, who died February 1, 1890, leaving one son.

Clarence L., who is now in the office of his uncle, C. W. Clausen, at Olympia, Wash. Mr. Clausen has recently been made a member of the National Geographical Society.

Rev. C. L. Clausen, now deceased, the pioneer Lutheran preacher of Mower county and vicinity, was born in Denmark, November 3, 1820, and there received his education and was ordained to the ministry. There he was married to Martha Rasmussen and together they came to America in 1843. She died in November, 1846, leaving one son, M. N. Clausen, city engineer of Austin. Rev. Clausen next married Bergetha Peterson, who bore him four sons: C. W., state auditor at Olympia, Wash.; L. F., an attorney in North Dakota; E. E.; and B. A., a druggist at Seattle, Wash. Mrs. Bergetha Clausen was born May 29, 1819, and died December 2, 1887. On coming to America Rev. Clausen located at Muskego, Wis., and began his professional career. He established and built of logs the first Scandinavian church there. The church stood until about five years ago, when it was taken down and removed to the Augsburg Seminary grounds, midway between St. Paul and Minneapolis, and preserved, log for log, as at first constructed. The expense of the removal was borne by the clergymen of the United Lutheran congregations. In its interior is a life-sized oil painting of Rev. Clausen, as a mark of appreciation from the United Lutheran Society, showing by this honor their gratefulness for the valuable services rendered by him to the organization. Mr. Clausen preached at Muskego only a short period, after which he removed to Rock Prairie, Wis., and there established and built another church, as well as a residence, all of limestone. In 1852 he went to Iowa and purchased a tract of government land on which now stands the village of St. Ansgar. In 1853 he returned to Rock Prairie and moved his family to his new location, making the trip by ox team. He established his new residence, organized a congregation and became its preacher. Shortly afterward he had the government surveyor plat the townsite of St. Ansgar on his property. He immediately erected himself a new residence on the townsite and was the prime mover and fountain head of what is now St. Ansgar. He constructed a dam across the Cedar river, built a saw mill, sold lots and made various improvements. In 1861 he became chaplain of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served until he received a partial stroke of paralysis, after which he was honorably discharged and returned to St. Ansgar, where he resumed his professional work. In 1872 he settled in Virginia, thirty miles north of Richmond, on the Rappahannock. After recovering his health he came back in 1878 and took up his home in Blooming Prairie, Minn., preaching for several con-



REV. C. L. CLAUSEN.

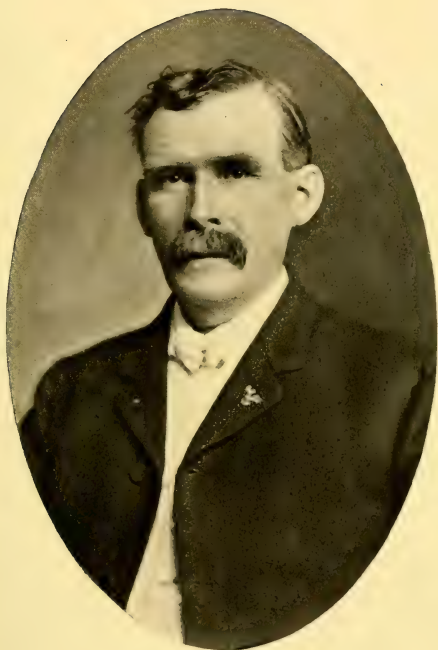
gregations. About 1887 he received his second stroke and resigned. He then retired and took up his home in Austin. He made several visits to his sons in Washington and on his last trip received the fatal third stroke, which caused his death February 20, 1892. He was brought back from Washington to Austin for interment. Mr. Clausen's history is a part of the story of the growth of the Lutheran religion in America, and his career is told in the sketches of the various Norwegian churches of the county as presented in this present work. It is worthy of note that just after the close of the Civil war a controversy arose in the Lutheran Synod as to the right of slavery. Rev. Clausen held that it was wrong according to the Scriptures. Many other clergymen of the synod held that slavery was right. This caused no little trouble and discord in the congregation. In 1867 Rev. Clausen decided to take a trip to Christiana. There he consulted two of the leading theologians in the University of Christiana and they agreed with him on the question of slavery. This trip was partly for the above cause and partly for the purpose of visiting his old home and friends. The governor of Iowa, hearing of his intended trip, bestowed upon him the honor of representing that state at the Paris Exposition of 1867. The portrait of Rev. Clausen which appears in this volume was taken on his native island, Aero, in Denmark, at forty-seven years of age.

Erick Hanson is one of the modern farmers of Mower county. He owns a fine place in Marshall township, has a comfortable residence surrounded with trees and shrubs, and a suitable complement of barns and outbuildings. He was born in Norway in 1871, son of Hans Hanson and Gertrude Peterson, his wife, who came to America in 1873 and in due time purchased eighty acres in section 25, Marshall township. Erick, who was brought to this country at the age of two years, was here reared to manhood, working on the home farm and attending the public schools. When twenty years of age he purchased seventy-five and a fraction acres in section 13, Marshall township, and to this he has added from time to time until he now owns 192 and a fraction acres, the fraction being caused by the fact that the farm is crossed by the right of way of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. Mr. Hanson has recently erected a large house and some excellent barns equipped with a windmill and gasoline engine, as well as with a fourteen-horsepower steam traction engine, which is used for feed grinding and various other work, both for himself and his neighbors. He was formerly interested in raising grain, but now devotes his attention largely to cattle for beef and dairy purposes, his favorite breed being the Aberdeen-Angus, of which he has a herd of some fifty or sixty pure

bloods. The subject of this sketch is a Lutheran in religion and a Republican in politics. In 1894 he married Susie Slindee, daughter of Ole O. Slindee, of Marshall township. This union has been blessed with one bright son, Irving, who is making an excellent record in the public schools.

William Furlong, now deceased, one of the early pioneers of Windom township, was a man of solid worth and took his part in the development of the country in the pioneer days. He was born in Tipperary, Ireland, January 6, 1798, and there grew to manhood, devoting his time to agricultural pursuits. There he was also married to Sarah Carter, who was a native of the same county. In 1852 they left their native land and started for America, landing in New York, but locating at once in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, where they remained on a farm two years. In 1854 they went to Galena, Ill., where they rented a farm until the spring of 1857, when they came to Mower county and entered the northeast quarter of section 8 in what is now known as the town of Windom. Here he erected a log house and endured at first all the hardships incident to pioneer life. Gradually he improved his land and when prosperity warranted it, erected a new home and barns. He died March 24, 1879, and his wife passed away July 27, 1872. They were the parents of seven children: Thomas, Mary, Patrick, James, William, John J. and Ellen.

Hon. John J. Furlong. John J. Furlong, son of William and Sarah (Carter) Furlong, was born in Tipperary county, Ireland, February 2, 1849, and came to America with his parents in 1852. (See life of William Furlong.) He attended the public school in Austin, and like all the boys of those early days, spent most of his vacation and spare time in hard work on the farm. May 25, 1880, he was married to Agnes Ryan, daughter of John and Johannah Ryan, of Albert Lea. She died October 23, 1897, leaving four children, May V., Loretta D., William A. and Charles, the latter of whom died at the age of sixteen. There are few men in the state with a wider acquaintanceship than Mr. Furlong. His success in agriculture, his natural aptitude in politics, his genial nature, combined with hard common sense, won him friends in all walks of life. A man of great will power and tireless energy, he was a good fighter in politics and a good loser when the battle went against him, which was seldom. For ten years he represented his district in the legislature. He was the state treasurer of the World's Fair Commission in 1893. His success in thoroughbred stock raising won him prominent positions in the various stock breeders' associations, a few of which we mention: President of the Swine Breeders' Association of Minnesota, president of the Minnesota Live Stock Breeders'



HON. J. J. FURLONG.



DAVID H. STIMSON.

Association, member of the executive board of the Sheep Breeders' Association of Minnesota, president of the First Congressional Live Stock Breeders' Association, president of the Live Stock Sanitary Board of Minnesota. He has also taken a great interest in agricultural fairs, and is a life member of the Mower County Agricultural Society, of which he was president for fifteen years. He has been connected with the Minnesota State Fair Association and for two years was its vice-president and came within a few votes of being elected president in 1910. He is now president of the Federation of County Fairs of Minnesota. Mr. Furlong is a strong believer in mutual insurance and he has been president of the Mower County Farmers' Mutual Fire & Lightning Company for many years. This company ranks first of all the mutual insurance companies of the state. He has also been vice-president of the National Association of Insurance Companies. He is a life member of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society and was a member of the board of managers five years. He is also a member of the State Horticultural Society. In township affairs he has been chairman for a number of years and is now a justice of the peace. While Mr. Furlong has been prominent in these various roles of life, his greatest work for Mower county was on his 320-acre farm, "Columbian" stock farm, which is located three and one-half miles east of Austin. This beautiful and well-kept farm won the \$1,000 prize offered by James J. Hill for the best farm in the First Congressional district. Mr. Furlong is a breeder of registered Shorthorn cattle, Cotswold sheep, Poland-China swine and high-grade Percheron horses. Mr. Furlong is past exalted ruler of the Austin Lodge, 414, B. P. O. E., a member of the Austin Lodge, A. O. U. W., Knights of Columbus, St. Augustine's Abstinence Society and was for a time a prominent member of Austin Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Austin Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He has held township offices and is interested in all movements for the up-building of Mower county and the state of Minnesota; is president of the Catholic Cemetery Association, which perpetuates continual care, and was secretary of St. Augustine's parish of Austin for a good many years, both during and for many years after its organization.

David Hopkins Stimson, deceased, was born in Danby, Vt., August 29, 1846, son of William and Aurora (Hopkins) Stimson, prominent farmers of Bennington, Vt. The father was one of seven sons and seven daughters and the mother was one of six sons and six daughters. They, however, had but three sons, David, William and Homer, the latter two of whom are dead. David, the subject of this sketch, received his education in Danby and graduated from the Manchester college at Manchester, Vt.

Subsequently he came west to Chicago and engaged in the carpenter business until 1872, when he came to Mower county, and after locating in Austin, engaged in contracting for a period. Later he was appointed deputy sheriff and served under Sheriffs Hall and Corey. Afterward he engaged in the real estate and loan business until 1902, when he was made superintendent of the Odd Fellows' Home at Northfield, Minn. There he removed his family. In 1905 he took his family to the Pacific coast and subsequently returned to Austin, where he resumed his previous business. He died July 26, 1907. Mr. Stimson was interested in many public movements and among his offices and activities may be mentioned the following: In the Odd Fellows he passed through all the chairs of the local lodge, was state representative to the national grand lodge and was grand master of the state grand lodge; in Oakwood cemetery affairs he served as president of the board until his death and was active in the movement which resulted in the erection of the chapel; in the Austin Building and Loan Association he was an active worker and for several years an officer; in the county fair projects he was also a hard worker and a member of the board; in the Austin Dairy Company he was instrumental in the organization and was treasurer and director at the time of his death. In addition to his many other interests he purchased 160 acres of land in Lansing township, near Ramsey, erected a home and buildings thereon and kept some forty head of cattle, thus conducting a dairy farm in connection with his dairy interests in Austin. The farm is now rented. Mr. Stimson also owned a residence at 310 Mankato street, Austin, where the family has resided for thirty-three years. The subject of this sketch was married, at Chicago, December 1, 1875, to Dora E. Jones, born October 28, 1853, at Tryonville, Crawford county, Pennsylvania, daughter of Lyman L. and Elizabeth J. (Hartwell) Jones, natives of Chautauqua county, New York, who went to Crawford county, Pennsylvania, about 1848 and located at Tryonville, where Lyman L. engaged as a hotel proprietor. In 1878 the family went to Brookings, Brookings county, South Dakota, and there Lyman L. became a carpenter, contractor and builder. He erected some of the first buildings in that place. After several years he was elected judge of probate and served in that office until ill health caused his retirement. He died in Austin. His wife died in Sioux City, Iowa. Judge and Mrs. Jones had four children. Albert is dead. Dora E. is Mrs. David H. Stimson, of Austin. Arthur lives in Illinois. Georgetta is Mrs. F. R. Preston, of Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Stimson had three children. Ora L. was born March 24, 1878, and died November 23, 1893. Rayburn L. is in the real estate business with E. H. Smith, of

Austin. He is a stockholder and director in the Austin Dairy Company and lives at home. Jessie A., born May 9, 1884, is also a stockholder in the Austin Dairy Company and also lives at home. Since her husband's death Mrs. Stimson has been treasurer of the Austin Dairy Company.

Frank Johnson, of Marshall township, is one of the prominent Swedish-Americans of Mower county and is highly regarded among his friends and neighbors. He has taken an active interest in township and educational affairs and has served on the town board for ten years and on the school board of district 82 for fifteen years, his services in both capacities meeting with the favor and approbation of his fellow citizens. He was born in 1842, son of John Daniel Johnson, and came from Sweden to the United States in 1869, first finding work as a railroad bridge carpenter, in which work he was engaged for thirty years, working at different times for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Northern Pacific, the Great Northern and the Canadian Pacific. During this period he traveled extensively, saw much of the country and gained a wide knowledge of men and events. In 1893 he came to Mower county and purchased eighty acres in section 7, Marshall township, where he now has 240 acres. Mr. Johnson has brought his scientific knowledge and long experience to bear on farm problems and has planned and erected every building on the place himself. He farms on an extensive scale, raises general crops and makes a specialty of grain raising and the breeding of Black Polls. In 1894 Mr. Johnson married Mary Peterson, a native of Sweden, and they have three children.

A. B. Vaughan, one of the most honored of the early pioneers of Mower county, was born in Clinton county, New York, June 6, 1806. He received a good education and took up the profession of civil engineering. In 1843 he moved to Rock county, Wisconsin, and there practiced his profession in connection with farming until 1849, when he engaged in the mercantile business, which he conducted until the summer of 1854, when, in company with his sons, P. D. and John G., he came to Mower county. Here they took a claim, hired a house built and returned to Wisconsin the same fall. The next spring he returned to Mower county with his family of five sons and two daughters. He brought with him from Wisconsin his stock of merchandise and after reaching Mower county, erected the first store in Austin, engaging in trade with his oldest son, P. D. Vaughan. Mr. Vaughan was the first postmaster in Austin, keeping the office in his store. In 1855 he purchased a quarter interest in the townsite of Austin. In the fall he was elected a member of the territorial legislature as the first representative from Mower county, but was cheated out of the opportunity of serving by W. B. Covell, who

was defeated at the polls, but who filed a certificate of election with the register of deeds of Houston county. Mr. Vaughan was a delegate to the state constitutional convention and was also the first judge of probate in this county. He was one of the charter members of the Austin lodge, A. F. & A. M., and also attained higher Masonic degrees. He was also a justice of the peace and held that office at the time of his death. The subject of this sketch was one of the incorporators and directors of the Minnesota Central railroad, by the failure of which he lost heavily. He was prominently connected with the building up of Austin and with the organization of the county. He was also proprietor of the townsite of Lansing. His death, October 3, 1876, was sincerely mourned. His wife, Hepzibeth Bean, whom he married in January, 1828, was born in Milton, Vt., March 10, 1805, and died in Lansing, December 14, 1864.

John G. Vaughan, an early and respected pioneer of Mower county, was born in Saranac, Clinton county, New York, May 30, 1832, second son of A. B. Vaughan, of honored memory. He came with his parents to Rock county, Wisconsin, and in the fall of 1854, in company with his father and elder brother, and took a claim, returning to Wisconsin the same fall. In the spring of 1855 he came back to Mower county, bringing teams and supplies. He at once settled on his claim in Lansing township and there he still resides. He is a prominent citizen and has held various offices. He was married, March 18, 1854, to Mary R. Frost, born in Vermont, September 30, 1834. To this union eight children were born, of whom six are living—Clara, Burton F., Harvey A., George E., Stanley H. and Mary. Clara is the wife of John Beattie. Burton F. married Mary Long. Harvey A. married Gertie Wheeler. George E. married Mary Case. Stanley H. married Mary D. Young, and they have three children. Mrs. Vaughan died October 6, 1902.

J. A. Pinkava, a representative citizen of Red Rock township, was born in Bohemia, March 6, 1863, son of Joseph and Ann (Potochek) Pinkava, who brought him to America in 1880 when he was seventeen years of age. The family came directly to Austin and the men of the family worked out for a time. In 1882 Joseph went to Winnipeg, Canada, and a year later started firing on the Canadian Pacific. Eight months after this he went to Calgary with a view of taking a homestead, but not liking the locality, he went to northern Minnesota. In 1886 he went to Minneapolis and worked in a sawmill for a while, after which he learned the molder's trade. In 1887 he came back to Mower county and helped his brother pay for a farm he had purchased in Red Rock township. Then he bought a threshing machine, the first in Red Rock township, and followed farming and thresh-

ing with Ernest Sachese for three years. Then he purchased his partner's interest and conducted the business alone two years, subsequently selling to his brother, James, and Edward Mott. In 1890 he purchased a farm of 160 acres in the northwest quarter of section 20, Red Rock township, and erected a new home and other buildings. He has also acquired forty acres in an adjoining section and 160 acres in section 31, Windom, both of which he conducts, using modern methods and breeding Durham cattle and Percheron horses. He has been treasurer of school district 68 for several years. Mr. Pinkava is a man of sociable disposition and has allied himself with the Bohemian Benevolent Society. The subject of this sketch was married, February 16, 1890, to Anna A., daughter of Vit and Sarah Seifert, a family which came to America at an early day. In the Pinkava home are five children: Adolph, William, Joseph, Arthur and Iva, all on the home farm.

John A. Stephan, banker, merchant and postmaster of Waltham, was born at Ottawa, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, May 22, 1859, son of William and Theresa (Zimmerman) Stephan, who reared him to agricultural pursuits, in the meantime affording him the means of obtaining a good common school education. At the age of twenty-four he became a carpenter, and worked at that trade in Wisconsin for one year, after which he came to Waltham and followed the same trade another year. Then he opened up a general store in a building which he had erected for the purpose, the first goods being sold over the counter September 26, 1885. The original building has received a number of additions, and the business has prospered. In March, 1886, Mr. Stephan was appointed postmaster at Waltham, a position he has since filled with honor and credit. The subject of this sketch has not, however, confined his interests to his store. He owns a fine 240-acre farm in the township, is vice president of the Waltham State Bank, is interested in the telephone business, and was one of the organizers and is still a stockholder in the Waltham Co-operative Cheese Factory. He is a Republican in politics, and at the incorporation of Waltham village was named as its first president, a position he held for several terms. He was married October 2, 1884, to Ada Lurbey, who died in April, 1900, leaving three children: Ethel M., Gladys L. and Beulah M. Ethel M. was born June 22, 1888, graduated from the Austin high school and is now assistant in the postoffice at Waltham and bookkeeper for her father. Gladys L. was born November 22, 1893, and now attends the Austin high school. Beulah M. was born December 26, 1897. Mr. Stephan was married September 22, 1903, to Lillian Hayes. The family faith is that of the Episcopal church.

William Stephan was born in Germany and married Theresa Zimmerman. They came to America about 1847, and lived in New York city a year. In 1848 they came west to Wisconsin, and located in Ottawa township, Waukesha county, and engaged in farming. William Stephan died about 1890 and his wife still lives on the old homestead at the good old age of eighty-four years. They were the parents of eight children: William is dead; Katie is now Mrs. Gust Baach, of Blooming Prairie; John A. lives in Waltham; Lena is Mrs. Philip Kramer, of Kenyon, Minn.; Margaret is Mrs. Fred Baach, of Austin; Fred lives on the old homestead in Waukesha county, Wisconsin; Annie is Mrs. Elliott Cory, of Elkhorn, Wis., and Sarah is Mrs. Fred Seifert, of Staubville, N. D.

Charles L. Schwartz, one of the efficient county commissioners of Mower county, has occupied a number of important positions, having served as a township supervisor, clerk and chairman of his school district many years, and also township assessor for some years. He was born in Ohio, February 7, 1851, son of John C. and Caroline (Schmidt) Schwartz, and was brought by his parents to Sheboygan county, where he received his common school education and grew to manhood. At the age of seventeen he started out in life for himself by securing employment in a mineral water bottling plant in Rochester, Minn. Later he took up farming, and located in Sargent, in 1877, where he followed agricultural pursuits from 1877 to 1907, this span of years forming a period of hard work, successful labor and efficient service. In 1907 he gave up farm life and moved to the village, where he was saddened the following year by the loss of his wife. He was elected to his present position in 1908. The subject of this sketch married Otellea LaBudde, born in Germany of French descent. This union has resulted in four children: Antonie, wife of Frank Martin, of Sargeant township; Ferdinand C., Cora A. C., Oscar A. and Reinhold F. Cora is the wife of John F. Ziemer, and they have four children: Raymond, Florence, Harold and Lynn. Ferdinand C., who is a rural mail carrier, married Kate Wiedeman, daughter of Jacob and Katharine (Wegmann) Wiedeman, and they have two children, Esther and Mildred H. Oscar A. married Anna Hanson, and they have one child, Fern. Reinhold F. married Bertha Tauta, and they have one child, Evelyn.

John C. Schwartz, father of Charles L. Schwartz, was a millwright by trade, a native of Germany. He came to America in 1847, lived in Ohio seven years, then resided some time at Sheboygan, Wis., and about 1873 located in Rochester, Minn., where he died in 1879, his wife passing away a year later.

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